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Jazz Club Proposal Will Move Forward; 'Remand' Not Granted

A use variance granted to the the site formerly home to Mike's Tavern by the Township Zoning Board of Adjustment will move forward as planned, in spite of recent litigation and recent reports that indicated the orginal application would be sent back to the zoning board for review.

Although residents challenging the approval for Mike's Tavern on Bayard Lane to be converted fo a jazz club have said that Superior Court Judge Linda Feinberg established a settlement Friday that would send the original jazz club application back to the zoning board for reconsideration, zoning board attorney Robert Casey has told Town Topics that the settlement did not occur and the site plan application will continue to move forward through the planning process.

"There is no settlement for remand in any way, shape, or form," Mr. Casey said

The site plan application, Mr. Casey added, will be modified to provide for onsite parking. The application for off-site parking at Stefanelli's, which had been a point of contention for the neighbors, has been withdrawn, Mr. Casey said.

The jazz club applicant, Hageman Road resident Stephen Distler, was granted a use variance to convert Mikes Tavern into a jazz club. Tentative club plans include 150 bar and dining seats with the building size ranging between 6,000 and 7,000 square feet. Mr. Distler is reportedly working with architect Terence Smith, whose work includes the Triumph Brewery on Nassau Street.

Some residents from either side of Bayard Lane objected to the original ruling, saying residents within 200 feet of Stefanelli's Automotive Garage at 163 Bayard Lane were not notified of the application. Under the original plan, Stefanelli's would have been used as a possible site for parking, even though a Shell Station lies in between the two properties. But that part of the application has since been withdrawn.

At the time of approval, Carlos Rodrigues, chair of fhe zoning board, said the decision was based solely on the "use" of the site, and not the anticipated impact. Princeton Township's

Continued on Page 21

Princeton High Student Shot in Trenton

A 17-year-old Princeton High School student was shot in the back outside a deli at the corner of Hoffman Avenue and Oakland Street in Trenton on Sunday. The teen, whose name has been withheld by police because he is a minor, was rushed to the Capital Health System at Fuld hospital, then later transferred to Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia. His condition is unknown.

A Borough resident and member of the PHS basketball team, the minor was said to be friends with the second victim, 18-year-old John Hayes of Trenton. Mr. Hayes, a former PHS student, was not injured in the shooting.

The incident, reported to have taken place at 8:24 a.m., was responded to by Trenton Police. When they arrived at the scene they found the victim, a black male, face down in the intersection by the Oakland Street Deli.

Police learned from Mr. Hayes that the victims were coming out of the deli when a group of approximately ten black males approached them about some sort of "break in," of which the victims were unaware. At this time gun shots were heard, after which the group of males fled the scene.

PHS Principal Gary Snyder said he knew the victim, but would not comment on him personally.

"Obviously, as a school community we're concerned," he said. "We wish him the best with his recovery."

Lynn O'Grady, director of guidance at the high school, said the department is "doing plenty" to offer support to students, but declined to comment further.

Interim Superintendent Richard Marasco did not return calls made by Town Topics before press time.

In September, a similar incident occurred when Jean Mario Israel, 19, was shot in Trenton. A former PHS student, Mr. Israel was said to have been a member of the Bloods gang. Later reports said that Arturo "Yukon" McKnight, 21, a resident of Trenton and a Crips gang member, was arrested in connection with the murder.

Preliminary investigations have not

Continued on Page 20

If Hospital Decides to Move, Community Should Be Prepared

As the Princeton HealthCare System weighs its options on relocation, expansion, or perhaps both, a community task force put together to offer independent recommendations has set its sights on what might occupy the hospital site if it were to vacate its current facility at 253 Witherspoon Street.

.That group, the Princeton Health Care Task Force, began discussions in a public forum at Township Hall last Wednesday on possible uses for the site now occupied by the University Medical Center at Princeton (UMCP), which is part of PHCS.

The recommendations for possible uses of the site included a hotel/conference center, residential housing, a continuing care retirement community (CCRC), or institutional use such as graduate student apartments, University faculty housing, or a mixed use of housing, shops, and parking.

While still not hailed as a foregone conclusion, the hospital's relocation has been the subject of more practical discussion than the arguments that have been made supporting in-town expansion. Alan Sager, a Boston University health care, finance, and planning professor, was brought in to offer an objective analysis on how the hospital should achieve its goals as

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SINGING IN THE RAIN: It rained at last Thursday's Menorah lighting ceremony in front of Mediterra, but the Junior Choir of the Princeton Jewish Center, which was led by Robin Wallack, made sure the rain didn't dampen the spirits of the crowd.

Photo by George Vogel

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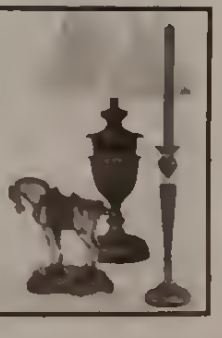

Town Topics Announces 58th Annual Holiday Fund Appeal To Benefit Needy Princeton Families and Organizations

In 1947 the founding editors of Town Topics, Dan Coyle and Donald C. Stuart, began an annuaf Christmas Fund to benefit the less fortunate and needy in Princeton. In recent years we have been asked if we would consider amending the name to something more politically correct and so this year we are changing the name to the Town Topics Holiday Fund. The purpose, however, will not change. The fund's principal beneficiary, Family & Children Services of Central New Jersey on John Street, has received $206,000 since April 2002. Last year additional donations were made to the Princeton YMCA to underwrite summer camp programs for children and to the Waxwood Scholarship Fund at the Princeton Arts Council to provide summer art scholarships for Princeton children who could otherwise not afford to attend. It is our desire to expand the fund to a broader distribution of Princeton-based charitable organizations whose work directly benefits area residents. Each year Princeton residents respond generously with donations that help those less fortunate in our fortunate community. fn a town as rich as ours it is easy to forget that there are others who do not have what we take for granted. No donation is too small to make a difference in the life of someone in need. All of the administrative expenses associated with the management of the non-profit charitable fund are paid for by Town Topics to assure that fully 100 percent of the donations are used for charitable purposes. Donations are fully tax-deductible and each donation will be gratefully acknowledged in writing. Donations may be made in the form of cash, check or securities to: TOWN TOPICS HOLIDAY FUND, 4 Mercer Street, Princeton, NJ 08540.

—Ken Smith

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Princeton Wine & Liquor Store Receives Two-Day Suspension

Princeton Wine & Liquor must close their doors for two days in February after being found guilty of selling alcohol to a minor, a violation of state Alcohol Beverage Control regulations.

The violation took place on August 10, when Detective Michael Bender of the Borough Police Department was on watch outside the store, located at 174 Nassau Street, as part of S.U.D.S., a program exercised by the department to stop underage drinking.

Det. Bender observed a 17-year-old male purchasing alcohol from a clerk, Mark Bauer, who had been an employee at the store for 12 years. Det. Bender said that at first, he thought the male patron was over 21, but buying alcohol for two minors. However, afterwards he discovered that he too was a minor, although looked old for his age.

"He was a big guy, a football pfayer at the University," said the detective. "He was questionable even to me and f've been doing this for 14 years."

Calling the store, "the most police-friendly" liquor store in town, Det. Bender asked that Borough Council be lenient on the charges against the store.

Mr. Bauer, who normally works in the stockroom, was not supposed to be running the cash register, said Rosemarie Belmont, who co-owns the store with her husband, Bob. Mr. Bauer pleaded guilty to the charges.

"It is a very difficult job running a liquor store," said Ms. Befmont, adding that the reason the clerk was running the register was because she had briefly left the store. "I accept full responsibility."

Council voted to suspend the store's license on February 16 and 17. The motion passed 5 to 1, with Councifman Andrew Koontz casting the vote against it.

— Candace Braun

Princeton Academy Raffle Won by Soldier in Iraq

Captain Christopher Ix, an Army Ranger currently stationed in the Salah ad Din province of fraq, was the holder of the winning ticket in Princeton Academy's recent raffle drawing. Student Council President and current 8th-grader Wade Copeland drew the ticket at the end of the Academy's Founders' Day celebration. The prize is a Honda S2000 donated by Honda of Princeton.

Capt. Ix came to Princeton Academy two years ago to visit his nephew's classroom and share his experiences from Ranger school with the boys. He had taken a Flat Stanley sent from his nephew's class with him to Ranger school. In his letter to the class describing his time there, he told them that when he finished, he "pinned the Ranger tab on Flat Stanley as a memento of our experience together, and left Flat Stanley to the mercy of the postal system while I prepared to jump out of a C130 airplane."

The raffle raised over $88,000 in support of the construction and renovation of the Academy's library and chapel space. "After the successful effort last year to raise the funds needed to build our new gymnasium and convocation center," said Headmaster Oien Kalkus, "we are moving on to our next priority: to establish the academic and spiritual heart of the campus. We couldn't have hoped for a better result."

Earlier in the afternoon, Princeton Academy conducted a prayer service of thanksgiving to commemorate the completion of its first five years.

GRAHAM CRACKER HOUSE: Stuart Country Day School second grader Amani Ahmed of Princeton helps her preschool friend, Matthew Manahan of Skillman build a house made of graham crackers, fcing, chocolate, and gumdrops.

Correction

In a story written in the December 8 issue of Town Topics, regarding the lawsuit against the American Boychoir School, it stated that the school's music director, Donald Hanson, had been an employee there from 1981 to 1982. Mr. Hanson was actually employed at the school from 1970 to 1982, when he was dismissed after two students (not John W. Hardwicke Jr., who has filed a lawsuit against the school) separately reported that they had experienced inappropriate sexual contact with him.

The story also reported that Lawrence Lessig is representing Mr. Hardwicke; however, Mr. Lessig is arguing the recent appeaf to the State Supreme Court pro-bono. Mr. Hardwicke retained the firm of Piper Rudnick to represent him in the case.

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PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: Princeton Future met at the Princeton Public Library Saturday morning to discuss the impact of development along the Witherspoon Street corridor. The meeting was prefaced with a developmental history, that gave the brainstorming session some perspective. Pictured clockwise from left are Gail Ullman, Wanda Gunning, Andres Reinero (partially blocked), Kevin Wilkes, Alan Goodheart, Marta Karamuz, Heidi Fichtenbaum, and Susan Hockaday.

Neighborhood Discussion Offers a Look At a Witherspoon Street of Yesteryear

Witherspoon Street: it has been the centerpiece of virtually every in-town planning and development dialogue and will probably continue to play a prominent role in Princeton for years to come. And while the battle between various residents as to what Princeton's future should look like sounds like the journalist's credo "who, what, where, when, why, and how?," the exploration of the future always manages to unearth the history of a neighborhood that somehow never quite manages to let go of its past.

Princeton Future, a community organization established to look at in-town development, has spent the fast three weeks holding public meetings establishing a dialogue between residents to get a better handle on how Witherspoon Street will absorb the impact of monumental changes at either end of the corridor. On the southern end, near the downtown, Princeton Borough is about to embark on the second phase of its downtown development project, which is sure to affect commercial and pedestrian activity. Witherspoon House, next to the Princeton Public Library, is near completion, offering luxury housing to a demographic not normally associated with a Witherspoon Street address.

On the northern end, the University Medical Center at Princeton is weighing its options for expansion or relocation. While the hospital has yet to make a decision or to even indicate how it might decide, major change will come to that end of Witherspoon Street regardless. If the hospital stays, residents will have to shoulder the impact of taller buildings and increased traffic. If it leaves, residents will have to decide what takes the hospital's place. This daunting question has suddenly entered the community discourse, leaving many residents unsure of the future of their own backyards.

But what has also come out of these dialogues is the history that preceded this discussion, the hospital, the library, and the new municipal garage.

fn discussing Witherspoon Street, Wanda Gunning, chairperson of the Regional Planning Board of Princeton and one of Princeton's several "unofficial" historians, offered more than a bit of perspective.

Witherspoon Street "was the dividing line between two estates owned by Thomas Leonard in the 18th century," she said. Mr. Leonard, who died around the time of the University's chartering in 1746, was the biggest single financial and land donor to Princeton University at the time.

Mr. Leonard came to Princeton around 1710, married the widow of the late Richard Stockton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He subsequently acquired all of the Stocktons' 5,000 acres to distribute to the Stockton children, keeping some of it for himself.

A wealthy landowner and major figure in New Jersey politics, Mr. Leonard left a definitive legacy, as exhibited by "lost heirs" of Mr. Leonard's who perennially turn up in New Jersey's court system.

Since Mr. Leonard's death, Ms. Gunning continued, land ownership changed hands several times. The part of the road that was home to Mansgrove House, which still stands on Terhune Road, was owned at one point by John Witherspoon. His widow subsequently lost that estate, and constant challenges in the courts ensued.

Eventually, the land from Mansgrove up to about Clay Street, Ms. Gunning

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TOPICS Of the Town

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Neighborhood Discussion

Continued from Preceding Page

continued, was developed into what was known in the 19th century as the Ferguson Tract, named after Josiah Ferguson, a captain in the Revolution. Mr. Ferguson built some modest housing on that land.

On the other side of the street, Thomas Wiggins, the town doctor, had picked up much of the current cemetery's land, which he subsequently left to the Presbyterian church. There were also some houses where the cemetery is now.

"It was a neighborhood in which free African-Americans and whites settled," Ms. Gunning said, adding (a possible harbinger of things to come) that there had long been title problems with land ownership of that area.

The current hospital site, once Pierson's Dairy Farm, was previously owned by James Carnahan in the 1850s after he retired as president of the University. On the other side of the street, which the Princeton Packet and Community Park now call home, were stock farms and slaughterhouses.

"People complained constantly of the smell if you were at the cemetery putting flowers at your family plot," Ms. Gunning said.

By the time the hospital was firmly established in the 1920s, some slaughterhouse structures still stood within the residences of the Birch and Leigh avenues. In fact, Leigh Avenue was named after Mr. Leigh, one of the last owners of the slaughterhouses.

Across the street, land owned by Walter Butler Harris was opened for development. Mr. Harris, a University professor and architect, also developed a lot of land in Princeton, Ms. Gunning said. He laid out these "smallish" streets, some of which had houses on them when he died in the 1930s, but many of which were not built until the 1950s.

Fast forward to the present, Saturday morning at the library's community room where concerned residents sit in groups laboring over maps to get a better sense of the land that seems poised for imminent change. It was appropriate that Ms. Gunning prefaced Princeton Future's brainstorming session with the developmental history of the neighborhood, because she, and the residents on hand Saturday, are all writing themselves into the history books of the Witherspoon Street neighborhood.

— Matthew Hersh

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Borough Needs to Concentrate On Pedestrian Safety, Says Report

How to make the Borough more pedestrian-friendly was the main topic of discussion during the Traffic and Transportation Committee's presentation to Council on Wednesday, December 8. However, while Council agreed with many of the committee's concerns, a formal improvement plan was not decided upon.

According to the committee's Sandy Soloman, most of the 30 people who sent in traffic and transportation safety suggestions said that there was a need to create a safer environment for walking around town.

"There are two sides to every dysfunction," said Ms. Soloman, suggesting that both pedestrians and drivers need to be better educated about traffic patterns and the flow of traffic in town.

Princeton's busy state-maintained roads proved to be a concern to residents, as well as the need to make crosswalk areas more visible to oncoming drivers. In addition, the intersection of Nassau Street with Route 206 has proven to be a problem for some senior citizens, who have said that the reason they don't walk to the Suzanne Patterson Senior Center behind Borough Hall is because they don't feel safe crossing the road.

"I walk a lot in Princeton ... and many times I fear for my life at some intersections in town," said Phyllis Teitelbaum, a member of the committee who said that she likes to walk in town for exercise but is often discouraged due to traffic. A resident of Hawthorne Avenue, she said that the pedestrian walking signs at Nassau Street, Bayard Lane, and Stockton Avenue are unsafe, as cars don't yield to walkers.

"If you follow that pedestrian light you will get killed," she said.

Council responded to the committee's concerns with accounts of failed attempts at improving pedestrian safety in the past. Councilman David Goldfarb said that the Borough has asked the state to give pedestrians more time to cross certain heavily-trafficked intersections such as Nassau and Witherspoon streets, but that the state has denied the request, saying that it would interrupt the flow of traffic.

An additional complaint about the lack of pedestrian crosswalks along Nassau between between Moore and Harrison streets was met with Council's contention that the state claims that parking spaces currently used by area businesses would have to be removed before crosswalks can be put in place.

Mayor Joe O'Neill said that encouraging walkers to use dangerous roads has partly led to the problem: "We should not lure pedestrians onto roads where they're likely to get hurt; Bayard Lane is one of them."

Some residents also showed concern for the state of Mercer Street, and its lack of crosswalks. Council responded that the road is currently undergoing extensive reconstruction, which will take several years before it is completed.

"We need to send a message to the state that this is hurting our town," said Ms. Soloman, adding that the committee is willing to write a letter of requests to the state which could be formally approved by Council.

The Borough currently puts $25,000 aside each year for pedestrian safety issues in town, but the amount has never been used up. This is in part due to the need to find and hire the staff to do the work, said Mr. Goldfarb.

"I think the points [the committee] has raised are significant ones," said Mayor O'Neill, adding that Council will draft a resolution summarizing the committee's concerns and suggestions.

The resolution will be examined on a date not yet determined by Council.

—Candace Braun

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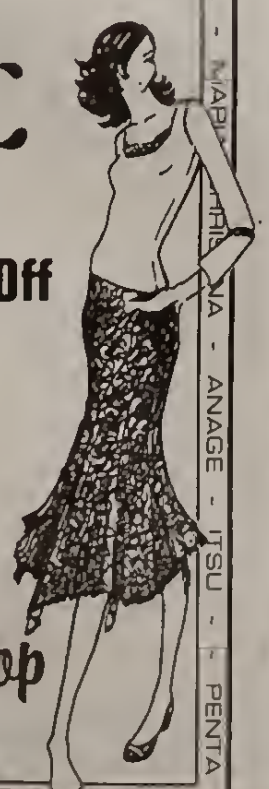

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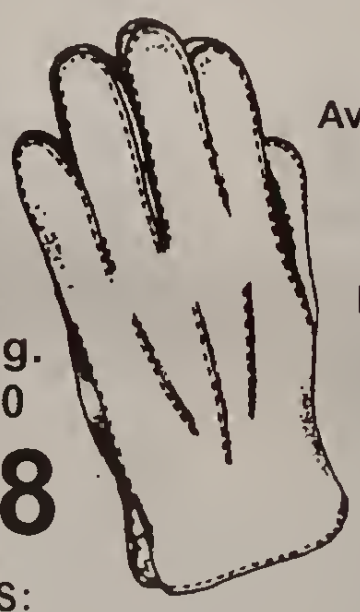

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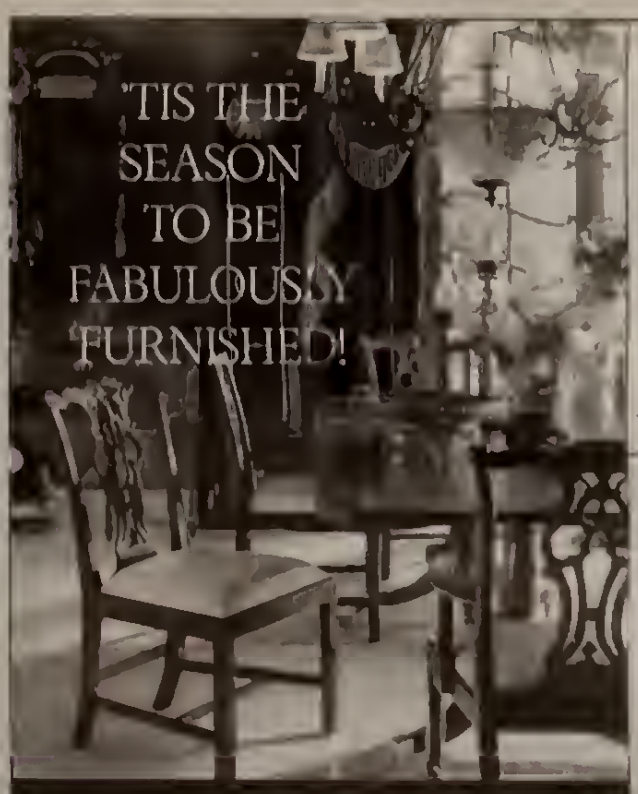

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PROFILES in EDUCATION

Lisa Houston

Name: Lisa Houston
School: The Pennington School
Years Taught: nine years
Subject/Grade Taught: drama director for grades 6th through 12th
Education: Princeton High School; bachelor's degree in English and theater, Barnard College, NY
Most Memorable Book: *The Open Door*, by Peter Brook
Person You Admire: "My aunt, Helen Mack, who is a teacher of gifted students and a cancer survivor. She has given me a lot of advice over the years and has great strength and determination."

The best way to be a good teacher is to be there for your students as much as possible. At least that's the case for Lisa Houston, the drama director at the Pennington School, who not only spends her school days teaching classes and her afternoons in play rehearsal, but lives on campus as a dorm parent for upper school boys.

Ms. Houston jump-started the drama program at the private school, which did not have any drama classes and very few drama performances when she arrived nine years ago. Beginning with no equipment, lighting, or stage area, the drama program at Pennington is now so big that the school recently built a media center with a studio to be specifically used by Ms. Houston and her students.

"My first students knew what it was like to not have drama, and then to see what it was like to have it as part of their daily school life," she said. "Now it's totally a part of the culture of the school...Students have been able to pass that down to one another over the years."

While admitting to being a drama teacher, but not an actress, the Princeton native has been exposed to theater since she was a child, when her parents would take her and her younger sister to Broadway shows, as well as many of the plays performed at Washington Crossing and McCarter Theatre.

However, it was her sister, Suzanne, who was more interested in becoming an actress. After teaching drama at John Witherspoon Middle School for three years, her sister is now pursuing a professional career in acting.

Ms. Houston, who was undecided about a career, began taking more of an interest in theater at Barnard College, where she had a work-study job in the theater department. As she gradually took more classes and made more friends in the field, she found herself majoring in it. Working in more than a dozen shows her senior year at Barnard, she began to feel overloaded, but after taking some time off and then briefly working at an interior design company in Princeton, she realized that theater was the only place she could be as creative as she wanted to be.

A Life of Teaching

After applying for the advertised position at the Pennington School, Ms. Houston started out as a part-time drama teacher and hall parent in the school's dorms for the students who board there.

"When you're a young, single teacher at a boarding school, your whole life is the school and kids," she said, adding that keeping up with all her commitments at work has become much more difficult now that she's married and has two kids. It helps that her husband, Jason Harding, works part-time as a Native American History teacher at the school. Besides sharing the parental duties throughout the day, he helps with the lighting and technical equipment for the school's productions.

"It's a big balancing act. It's been hard the last few years," she said, adding that along with directing both the fall play and winter musical, she teaches five classes per day, including middle school drama and public speaking, advanced drama, technical drama, a senior drama seminar, a Shakespeare course, and Art-O-Rama, a combined art and drama course.

Ms. Houston thinks that what makes her teaching stand out is her determination to get to know each student as an individual during the six years she teaches them. Tying classroom exercises to outside interests of the students, many of whom participate in up to three sports, helps them relate the course to their daily lives.

"Drama is a personal subject; it's about you and putting yourself into someone else's perspective...You have to get into their hearts and minds and figure out how you can help them be the best they can be."

Ms. Houston said she believes many of her "lost" students find their muse in theater, giving them the confidence to move forward with their goals: "[Confidence] can only make you a better student, a better person. Even if that's the only thing you get out of one of the courses I teach, or plays I direct, it's a really important life lesson."

She has already sent some of her students on the right course by helping them audition for acting programs at colleges such as New York University, Syracuse University, or The College of Santa Fe.

The Play's The Thing

The after-school productions are Ms. Houston's main priority, because she feels her students get the most out of that experience: "I want to make the shows the best they can be and I want the kids to feel that they're doing the best they can."

This fall her students performed *The Laramie Project*, based on the story of Matthew Shepherd, the gay University of Wyoming student who was murdered.

"The subject matter is pretty sensitive for high school and for this day and age, with politics the way they are...I thought it was very timely," she said, adding that to relate the play to the students' education she had programs to go along with it, including training for the actors in sensitivity and tolerance by the Anti-Defamation League.

Leadership programs at the school also studied the meaning behind the play, and the acting group held a "talk back" discussion for students following one of its productions. Romaine Patterson, a friend of Mr. Shepherd's who was featured in the play, also came to the school to speak to the entire student body.

"The play was a life-changing event for me and the students directly involved, but also for the parents and other faculty and students who were really moved by what the play brought forth," said Ms. Houston.

The moment she truly realized how important her position is at the school was when she was working on the winter musical this past school year. When her now 10-month-old daughter came a month early, she had to be hospitalized a week before her students were due to perform at a drama festival at Rider University. Although other faculty members rehearsed the actors and took them to the competition, the students seemed less confident without their drama teacher.

At the last minute, Ms. Houston was able to go to the show, watching in the audience as her students won the competition: "I don't think they realized how important I was to them until the moment I couldn't be there."

— Candace Braun

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Fire Wire

The Princeton Fire Department reports the following activity for the week ending on Sunday, December 12:

This was a low activity week for the department, with only eleven calls in total. There were two responses to motor vehicle accidents, five responses to fire alarms, two responses to electrical transformer shorts/explosions, one response to a report of wires down, and one response to a smoke condition in a basement of a multi-unit dwelling.

The fire alarm calls ranged from alarm system problems, to steam from a shower, to light smoke from a cooking problem. The call for a smoke condition in a basement occurred right after one of the firehouses had its children's holiday party; three vehicles responded to this call immediately. A fourth vehicle from another firehouse responded quickly afterwards, in addition to an ambulance from the Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad. Initial investigation by the first arriving fire chief and Princeton Borough police officers found this to be steam from a dryer vent instead of an actual smoke condition.

The Princeton Fire Department is always looking for volunteers. For more information, call (609) 497-7646, or (609) 731-1314.

Fact of the Week

Be careful if you use space heaters as the weather turns cold. Nationally many fires have been started inadvertently by putting the heater too close to furniture or draperies. Likewise, there is a danger of a fire starting if your space heater tips over.

The non-profit safety advocate National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) says heating devices are the leading cause of fires in the home during December, January and February. In 2001, there were 54,900 heating equipment-related home fires in the U.S., 220 civilian deaths, 1,120 civilian injuries, and $502 million in direct property damage. All kinds of space heating equipment are involved in fires in the home: portable electric heaters, wood stoves, fireplaces, portable kerosene heaters, and room gas heaters.

Most fires with space heaters are preventable if key safety measures are followed. To avoid problems, keep both portable and fixed space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including furnishings, bedding, and clothing. Turn the heater off when you leave the room or go to sleep.

Wood stoves and fireplaces also need special care. If you're buying a new unit, make sure a qualified technician does the installation. If the appliance has already been installed, have it checked to make sure the installation was done properly.

Most fires in wood stoves, fireplaces, and chimneys occur because of a lack of regular cleaning, leading to the buildup of creosote, the residue of unburned fuel. Heating devices should be inspected and cleaned on a regular basis according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use only seasoned hardwood and don't burn trash in a fireplace because the fire could burn out of control, and keep sparks and embers inside the fireplace with fire screens made of heat-tempered glass or sturdy metal.

Heating equipment that burns fuel is a potential source of carbon monoxide (CO), an odorless, colorless, poisonous gas that is created when fuel burns incompletely. Install CO alarms in your home to provide you with an early warning if it is accumulating.

CLEANING QUARTERS: Two members of the Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad, outfitted with protective suits and respirators, practice emergency decontamination procedures. The personnel are shown in the center of a portable shower facility that can be set up in minutes to provide victims a heated, private environment to be cleaned.

RESCUE REPORT

Later that afternoon, the squad responded to a call about a motor vehicle accident with entrapment at the intersection of Quaker Bridge Road and Province Line Road in Lawrence Township. The two patients were transported to the trauma center at Capital Health Systems-Fuld by the squad and an ambulance from West Windsor Emergency Services.

Wednesday, December 8, was particularly busy for the squad with 11 calls, two of which were dispatched concurrently. One of the simultaneous calls was for a patient in respiratory distress at the Jadwin Gymnasium at Princeton University. The second call was for an unconscious man who was found in lying in a driveway and appeared to be deeply intoxicated.

The Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad is a volunteer organization that relies on donations for all operational purchases (including ambulances, equipment, and insurance). A reminder letter about the squad's annual Fund Drive was sent to all Princeton residents last week. Anyone who did not receive the letter, or would like more information on how they can help support the squad, can call (609) 924-3338, or visit www.pfars.org.

The Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad reports the following activity for the week ending on Friday, December 10:

Last week, the squad responded to 51 calls. Of these, 27 were in Princeton Township, 20 in Princeton Borough, and four calls in neighboring municipalities. Included in the above numbers are five calls to Princeton University.

On Saturday, December 4, the squad staffed three ambulances when three calls were dispatched in less than 15 minutes. The calls were for an individual with a dangerously low blood pressure and two separate motor vehicle accidents involving injured pedestrians.

On Monday, December 6, six minutes after one ambulance responded to a patient in respiratory distress, the squad was dispatched to a motor vehicle accident on Cherry Valley Road, as well as to University Place and Dickinson Street, where downed wires were on fire.

On Tuesday, December 7, at 1:20 p.m., the squad responded to Princeton High School for an intoxicated individual. The patient, a 15-year-old female, was treated by the squad and transported to the hospital.

Police Blotter

The Lure of Alcohol: Attempts to Imbibe Get Minors Arrested

Attempts by four minors to purchase alcoholic beverages resulted in their arrests on a variety of charges.

In the first of three separate incidents, a Princeton University student was arrested on December 7 after he allegedly used a counterfeit driver's license in an attempt to purchase wine from a Nassau Street liquor store. Joseph Lambert, 20, of Mount Vernon, Ky., was charged with tampering with public records, assigned a December 20 court date, and released on his own recognizance.

Another 20-year-old, Joseph Lusko of Englishtown, was arrested the following day after he, too, used a counterfeit driver's license while attempting to gain access to a Nassau Street tavern. He was also released with a complaint summons to appear in court on December 20.

In the third case, two unidentified Lawrenceville School students, both 17, were arrested by Borough Det. Michael Bender after he observed them trying to purchase alcohol at "several" liquor stores in Princeton. They were charged with juvenile delinquency and released to the custody of an adult.

A 2003 two-door Honda was reported stolen from an unidentified 28-year-old Stanworth Lane resident on December 7. Police have no suspect(s).

Township police reported that an Oak Ridge Court residence was burglarized sometime between the hours of 5 a.m. on December 6 and 10:30 a.m. on December 8. An undetermined amount of jewelry was stolen.

An American flag was reported stolen from the Nassau Street office of Gund Investments on December 5. Police have no suspect(s).

On December 8, a Princeton University Store patron was arrested after he was seen leaving the store without paying for a number of DVDs, valued at $191, concealed on his person. Claude L. Saravia, 23, of East Windsor, was charged with shoplifting and issued a summons to appear in court on December 20.

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The Scrooge in each of us says that he will never replicate those perfect Christmases of childhood. Is Scrooge right or are the memories we treasure of family and friends gathered together what make Christmas Day so special. We all become children again at Christmas. Decorate your heart, as you decorate your tree, with love, fond memories and gratitude for the gifts we've been given. Share your smile and your heart with everyone. Help someone who is alone or less fortunate. This is what Christmas is really all about. (Try it)

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy Holidays to one and all!

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Tying a Paper Trail to Election Reform: Legislators, Organizations Spring to Action

In an attempt to set a legislative mandate to overhaul all electronic voting machines, local legislators and community groups met in Trenton Monday to map out a strategy that would place a "paper trail" on all new machines.

The move follows a Rutgers Constitutional Litigation Clinic lawsuit brought about by the Princeton-based Coalition for Peace Action (CFPA). The aim of that suit is to attach a receipt or internal printing paper roll as a back up to the electronically-tallied votes.

Filed before the presidential election, the suit initially sought to curb the use of electronic voting machines, favoring the older machines for their supply of a paper trail. With only six days remaining before the presidential election, a State Superior Court Judge Linda Feinberg declined to hear the case, allowing New Jersey's elections to move forward as planned. That suit remains to work its way through the courts.

Citing past malfunctions by the machines manufactured by Sequoia Voting Systems, Diebold, and ES&S, Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D-Princeton Borough), a plaintiff in the suit, said that safeguards may have been overlooked when the state put in new voting equipment. He indicated that state legislation should be put forth to address problems with voting machines.

Mr. Gusciora, Rep. Rush Holt (D-Hopewell), the Rev. Robert Moore of CFPA, the Rev. Reginald Jackson of the New Jersey Black Ministers Council, and Stephanie Harris, a plaintiff in the lawsuit, spoke at the State House Annex Monday, saying a paper trail would create a "safeguard" in counting votes.

"Democracy is a self-correcting process," Mr. Holt said. "If that process itself is in question, it means our ability for self-correction and moving -forward is put into jeopardy."

The recent presidential election, Mr. Holt continued, was generally perceived to have been successful; that is, there was no "meltdown" as there had been in Florida, he said.

"In fact, if you look at the complaints and anxious calls that were coming in on the hotlines, we know that this year's election was not flawless; no election is."

Mr. Holt cited "intimidation" and "distraction" tactics at the polls that could have deterred some voters, but he did not offer a specific instance.

"Heavy-handed, direct intimidation still occurs," he said.

Mr. Holt also called for the improvement of voter registration methods, provisional ballots, and absentee ballots.

A House bill, HR-2239, seeking to address many of Mr. Holt's concerns, had been introduced with 176 co-sponsors. However, with this current congressional session ending, the bill will have to be re-introduced next session.

"No one objects to the electronic machines," Mr. Gusciora said, citing a measure signed into law by California Governor Arnold Schwartzenegger that would require a paper trail. Currently, 16 out of 21 counties in New Jersey use electronic machines; all are manufactured by Sequoia.

"It is impossible to have independent audits for what each voter intended to do," he said.

Mr. Holt said he was receiving bipartisan support for his House measure.

— **Matthew Hersh**

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Coalition for Peace Action To Hold Candlelight Vigil

The Princeton-based Coalition for Peace Action will hold its annual pre-holiday Candlelight Vigil for Peace on Thursday, December 16, from 5 to 6 p.m., on Palmer Square. The vigil will be followed by a potluck supper and a talk by Jeffrey Laurenti, deputy director of the United Nations and Global Security Program of the United Nations Foundation. The title of the talk, which will be followed by a question-and-answer period, is "International Law, National Power, and Washington Myopia."

The call of this year's vigil will be for immediate U.S. compliance with international law, including the prohibition on torture in the Geneva Conventions. The vigil is also in opposition to President Bush's nomination of White House Counsel Gonzalez to be Attorney General. According to the Rev. Robert Moore, executive director of the Coalition, "this nomination sends exactly the wrong signal to the world about U.S. commitment to international law and fighting terrorism without using terrorist means ourselves."

The 6 p.m. potluck supper following the vigil will be at Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street (directly across the street from Palmer Square). Those bringing dishes are invited to drop them off at the church starting at 4:30. However, attendees are asked not to park at the church afterward.

Mr. Laurenti's talk will be at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the church. During the potluck and following the talk, there will be writing materials and sample letters for participants to use in contacting their Senators about the Gonzalez nomination.

The public is invited free of charge to any or all of the events. For further information, call the Coalition at (609) 924-5022 or visit the website at www.peacecoalition.org.

Identity Theft the Topic In PSRC Brown Bag Talk

The Princeton Senior Resource Center will continue its Brown Bag series on health education with a December 17 program, "Identity Theft — It Could Happen to You #2." Planning Associate with the N.J. Department of Banking and Insurance Jan Allen, who is currently assigned to the Education Section of the Office of Public Affairs, will be conducting this discussion on Internet Fraud, Telephone Scam, and ATM Fraud.

The program will begin at noon and is free, but participants should bring a sandwich. A beverage and dessert are provided. Registration is required. Please pre-register by calling (609) 924-7108. The series is supported by the ExxonMobil Foundation Matching Gift Programs.

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Question of the Week:

What are your views on the steroid controversy and what changes do you think should result?

"I think that anabolic steroids have done great things for baseball and other sports, and do not think that they should be banned. I'm all for them." — *Paul Stanton, Hodge Road*

"I think they are a black mark on baseball and American sports in general. The thing that we value so much is integrity for athletes, and taking steroids is disgraceful. There is not justification for it. This is also a product of society today — always trying to get ahead of someone else. I praise Senator McCain, and think that if the leagues and the owners cannot do something to stop it, the government should." — *David Blitzer, Rollinghill Road*

"Steroid use in sports is a violation of the ethics of the game. Every sport — football, baseball, basketball — needs a uniform, comprehensive and tough policy to combat this kind of advantage that one player may have over another." — *Justin Crowe, Lawrence Drive*

"I think that the use of steroids by professional athletes is a terrible thing, because they are role models for our children, and they need to realize that. So, all professional sports must do drug testing to make sure that players are not taking them." — *Eleanor DiLello, Princeton University*

"I am not at all surprised about the continuing revelations about this — and I think that they should do as they can to combat it — but I think that the athletes will manage to stay one step ahead." — *Daisy Fried, Lawrence Drive*

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RIDING THE PEACE TRAIN: The Princeton-based Coalition for Peace Action organized a war protest at the Dinky Station on December 4. Participants in that event met up with a larger-scale protest in Newark. (Photo by George Vogel)

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CLUBS

The **Princeton Chapter No. 459 of AARP, Inc.**, will meet on Friday, December 17, at 1:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Kingston Presbyterian Church.

A concert of Christmas music will be presented by The Magical Singers of Franklin Township High School under the direction of Betty DeMonic.

The public is invited. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call (609) 921-7680 or (609) 655-7684.

A joint dinner meeting of the Princeton and Trenton Chapters of the **Institute of Management Accountants** will be held on Wednesday, January 19 at 6 p.m. at Good Time Charlie's Restaurant in Kingston. The speaker will be Robert M. Marino, president of Alpha Nouveau Consulting, Inc.

For reservations, call Rebecca Machinga at (609) 520-1188.

The **Women's College Club of Princeton** is planning a chartered bus trip to the Newark Museum on Friday, January 7 to see the exhibit *Nicholas and Alexandra: At Home With the Last Tsar and His Family*. The bus will leave at 9:30 a.m. from the parking lot near Eckerd's in the Princeton Shopping Center, and return to Princeton by 3:30 p.m.

There will be time for a guided tour of the exhibit and visits to the museum's other collections and the restored Victorian home, the Ballantine House. Lunch can be purchased at the museum cafe.

The trip costs $25 per person and is open to the public. For reservations, call (609) 921-8575.

PROTEST FOR PEACE: The Rev. Robert Moore of the Princeton-based Coalition for Peace Action listens as Pat Gunn (holding sign) and speaker Mildred McHugh protest the U.S.-led war in Iraq. The December 4 protest group eventually rode the train to Newark where it met up with a dozen other "peace trains" for a larger protest. (Photo by George Vogel)

CHESSforum

The ability to recognize tactics over the board distinguishes a great player from a good player. For this reason, chess players attempt to solve many puzzles when they study the game. Such puzzles can be found in thousands of books and newspapers.

Finding the best move or continuation in these diagrams can dramatically improve your over-the-board play. You will train yourself to recognize certain tactical situations and exploit them when you can.

Another reason why this training is beneficial is because every time you make a move in a chess game, you are solving a different puzzle. While it is important to know strategy and pursue a plan during the course of a game, considering each new position as a puzzle will permit you to consider more plausible plans in the position.

Many beginners find their plan and will play their next dozen moves with that plan in mind giving no consideration to the opponent's plans. A chess game is a constantly changing entity. Every time it is your turn to move, you should attempt to forget the past. Think of yourself as taking over the game for a friend. You must first look deeply into the position in an attempt to understand what is going on.

Once you have a complete understanding of the position, only then can you begin to decide what move to play. Analyze the position; then make your move. You will find that spending a little extra time between moves will be well worth it.

—Chad Lieberman

Solution at bottom
White to mate in two.

Chow, A. - Bell, A.
Detroit, 1994

1.d4	Nf6	4.cxd5	Nxd5
2.c4	g6	5.e4	Nxc3
3.Nc3	d5	6.bxc3	Bg7
		7.Bc4	c5
		8.Ne2	Nc6
		9.Be3	0-0
		10.0-0	Qc7
		11.Rc1	Rd8
		12.f4	Bg4
		13.f5	gxf5
		14.Bxf7+	Kxf7
		15.Qb3+	Kf8
		16.Nf4	Qb6
		17.h3	cxd4
		18.cxd4	Qxb3
		19.axb3	Be2
		20.Nxe2	Nxd4
		21.Nxd4	Bxd4
		22.Rxf5+	Kg8
		23.Bxd4	Rxd4
		24.e5	Rad8
		25.Kh2	R4d5
		26.Rcf1	e6
		27.Rg5+	Kh8
		28.Rf6	Re8
		29.Rf7	Rg8
		30.Rxg8+	Kxg8
		31.Rxb7	Rxe5
		32.Rxa7	Rb5
		33.Ra3	Kf7
		34.Kg3	Kg6
		35.Kf4	Kf6
		36.Ke4	Rb4+
		37.Kd3	h5
		38.Kc3	Rf4
		39.Ra2	Ke7
		40.Rd2	e5
		41.b4	e4
		42.Rd4	Ke6
		43.b5	Ke5
		44.b6	Rf7
		45.Rb4	Rb7
		46.Kd2	Kd5
		47.Ke3	Kc5
		48.Rb2	Black resigns

Solution: 1.Rxh7+ Bxh7 2.Nf7#

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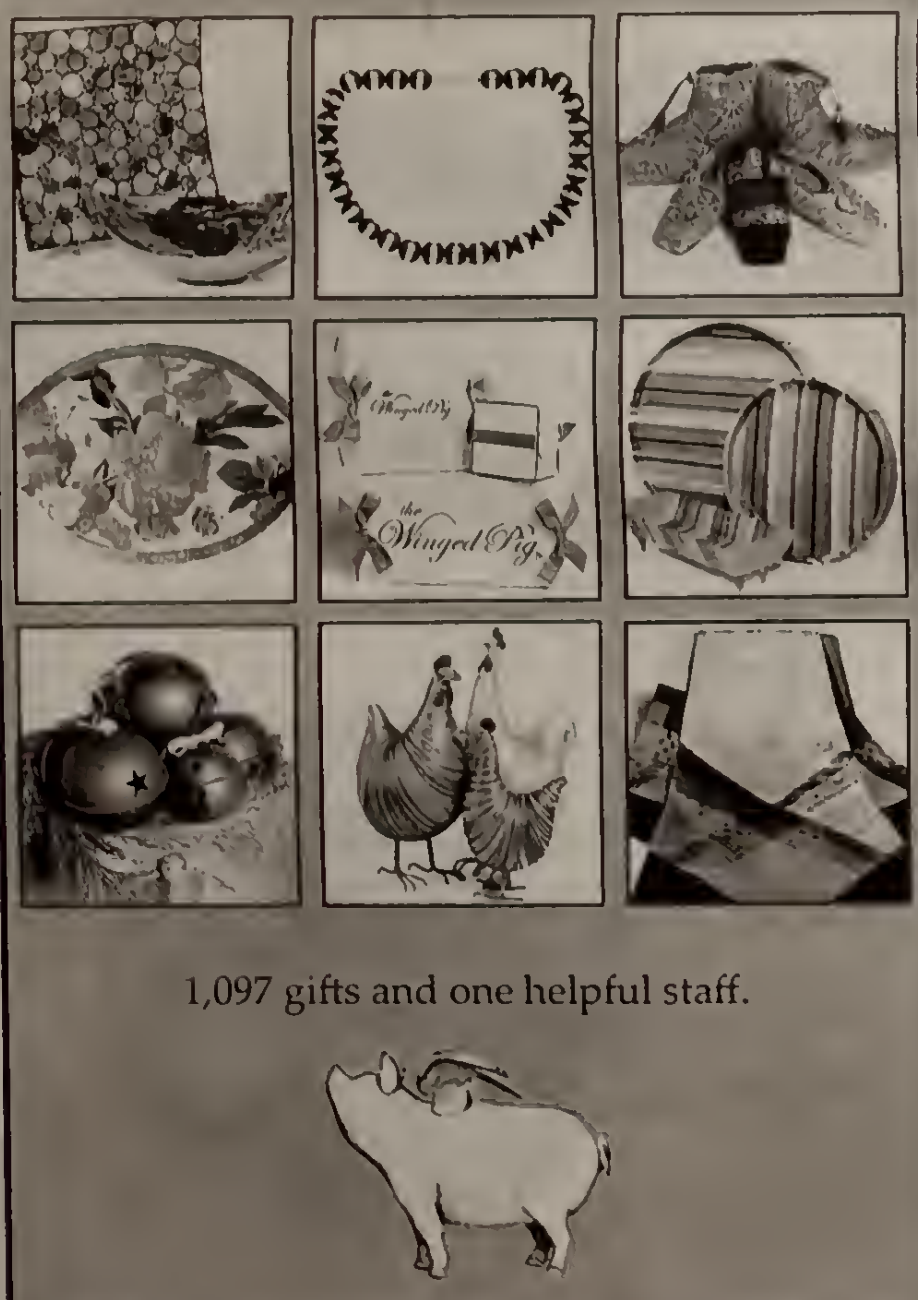

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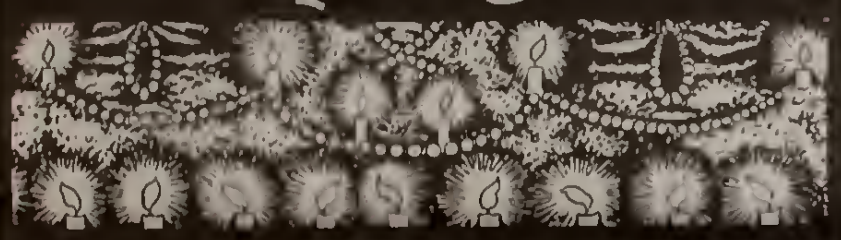

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JW CLEAN UP: Members of St. Paul's Spanish-language congregation, their parents, and other members of the Hispanic community gathered at the Arts Council on Saturday, December 4, for a street clean-up in the John Witherspoon neighborhood. Pictured, from left, are (back row) Manuel Morales, Elaine Morales, (middle row) Irene Gonzales, Irais Cortes, Johana Cortes, Silvia Asuncion, Lety Asuncion, (front row) Griselda Cortes, Jayline Sarmiento, Isai Sanchez, Sara Cortes, coordinator of St. Paul's Church Spanish Congregation Religious Instruction Program, and Cirila Asuncion.

Trenton's Patriots' Week Begins December 27

A new festival for Trenton, Patriots' Week is a program of the Trenton Downtown Association and the Old Barracks Museum commemorating the tide-turning battles of the American Revolution that were waged on the streets and in the parks of the city. The festivities run from December 27 through January 2 and will include battle re-enactments, debates and films, a Colonial era puppet show, a chance to meet George Washington, book signings and lectures, the Colonial Feast Dinner Theatre, and the nationally acclaimed musical comedy, "Capitol Steps."

For a complete schedule of activities, a map of the Patriots' Week venues, and information on parking and accommodations, visit www.patriotsweek.com.

Giving Is Receiving At The Trenton Area Soup Kitchen

The Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) has a holiday gift giving program. Send a donation to TASK in honor of someone, include their name and address. TASK will send them a holiday card informing them of the gift and telling them how it will be used. Listed below are items that will be purchased from holiday donations:

$1 donation will purchase a pair of reading glasses for a student in the TASK Adult Education Program.

$1.25 donation will purchase breakfast for a student in the TASK Adult Education Program.

$2 donation will purchase a take home bag meal for a child who comes to TASK.

$5 donation will purchase milk for 23 patrons.

$10 donation will purchase breakfast cereal for 25 students in the TASK Adult Education Program.

$15 donation will purchase hot meals for five patrons.

$20 will purchase a book for a student in the TASK Adult Education Program.

For additional information on TASK, call (609) 695-5456 or visit www.trentonsoupkitchen.org. Donations can be mailed to TASK at 72 1/2 Escher Street, P.O. Box 872, Trenton, New Jersey, 08605.

Red Cross Needs Help With Meals on Wheels

The American Red Cross of Central New Jersey is requesting the services of new volunteers who are willing to deliver meals to the homebound elderly and disabled in the Princeton, West Windsor and Hightstown areas. The need has arisen because approximately two-thirds of the Meals on Wheels volunteers are elderly themselves and have trouble driving in inclement winter weather.

Volunteers would be required to spend approximately two hours of their time on the day of their choice. In addition to enabling the elderly and disabled to remain in their own homes and receive a well-balanced meal, the Red Cross Meals on Wheels Program provides a visit by the volunteers and shows them that someone in the community cares.

Anyone interested in participating should contact Administrator of Elderly Services Rose Berger at (609) 951-2121.

Local Student Honored For Fund-Raising Ability

A student at Princeton Day School has been selected to receive the Youth Leader Award from Unite For Sight in recognition of his accomplishment as a fund-raiser. The student, Gyan Kapur, sold handmade "Cards for Sight" which he obtained from Indian village artisans. The cards had a hand-painted leaf on the front and were sold to students and parents in Gyan's community. The $1,000 raised by Mr. Kapur will fund 50 cataract surgeries in India during the summer of 2005.

The award was announced by Jennifer Staple, founder and president of Unite For Sight, a nonprofit organization that empowers communities worldwide to improve eye health and eliminate preventable blindness. The organization has more than 3,000 volunteers in 85 chapters at high schools, universities, medical schools, and corporations.

Mr. Kapur is also collecting used eyeglasses for those in India who cannot afford eyeglasses. His dedication to restoring sight began several years ago when he visited a rural hospital in Gurgaon, India, where his grandmother and other volunteers were helping poor villagers receive cataract surgery.

For more information about Unite For Sight, call (203) 426-4870 or visit www.uniteforsight.org.

Italian Classes Offered At Dorothea's House

Dorothea's House has announced that it will begin Italian classes for the winter/spring session on January 5. Classes are offered in 15-week sessions at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels on Wednesdays or Saturdays.

Tuition for adults will be $115, for children ages 4 to 14, $75.

For more information, write to j.mccauley@patmedia.net or call (908) 359-1564.

Dorothea's House is located at 120 John Street.

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Cranberry Holiday Relish

Serves 6 as a condiment

An attractive and festive addition to any holiday table, this juicy, sweet/tart dish is so delicious you'll find yourself snacking at every opportunity. This relish keeps well and can be made a day or two ahead. Happy Holidays!

- 2 cups fresh organic cranberries
- ½ cup Sucanat (or other organic sugar)
- ½ organic navel orange, cut into 1-inch chunks (rind and all)
- 1 medium-size organic sunchoke (Jerusalem artichoke)
- 1 medium-size tart organic green apple, such as Granny Smith

Add cranberries, sugar, and orange chunks to a food processor or blender. Blend until pulverized but not liquefied. Transfer to a medium-sized bowl.

Peel sunchoke (if needed), slice into very thin pieces, and mince. Stir into cranberry-orange mixture.

Core and mince apple and combine with cranberry-orange mixture. Cover tightly and chill.

More to Come ... Watch this space weekly for Princeton's favorite recipes... *Provided by Robin Broomer, Town Topics*

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Washington Crossing Hosts Holiday Events

The Visitor Center Museum at Washington Crossing State Park, will be conducting lantern walking tours on Friday, December 17, at 6:45 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. The guided tours will include the Nelson house, Harvey barn, and Johnson Ferry house. Reservations are required by calling (609) 737-2515. Admission is $8 for adults, $2 for senior citizens and children.

Resource interpretive specialist, Clay Craighead will give a lecture, "The Christmas Night Crossing and the Battle of Trenton", on Saturday, December 18 at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The lecture is based on diaries and letters of the participants.

To commemorate the 228th anniversary of George Washington's famous Christmas night crossing of the Delaware River, "The Christmas Day Reenactment " will take place on Saturday, December 25, at 1 p.m.

The Washington Crossing Visitor Center Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and features the Swan Historical Foundation's collection of over 500 colonial and Revolutionary War artifacts. The video, "The Ten Crucial Days" is shown every hour on the hour, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. "Washington's Gamble: Turning the Tide of War" video is shown every hour on the half hour, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For additional information, call (609) 737-9303.

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Baked Macaroni & Cheese $45 00 (serves 15)
Creamed Spinach Soufflé Casserole $45 00 (serves 15)
Sweet Potato Casserole $40.00 (serves 15)
Baked Tortellini Al Forno $45 00 (serves 15)
Brie en Croute stuffed w/Cranberry Walnut Compote $40 00
Bolognese, Vegetable, Cheese, Sausage & Mushroom Lasagnas $50 00 serves 12
Seafood Strudel Mkt Price (serves 8)

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MAILBOX

Despite Lost Cause, Thanks Are Owed To Attorneys for Concerned Citizens

To the Editor:

This is an open letter to the thousands of Princetonians who supported the bipartisan Concerned Citizens in its efforts to revise and/or stop the Borough plans for the garage and new downtown development (46% were Democrats who disagreed with the Democratic Borough Council, 26% were Republicans, and the balance were independent). Our cause was backed up by a community-wide survey indicating that 72% of the town agreed with us.

Your two legal petitions of 610 and 1,100 names calling for non-binding referendums, your financial support, your letters to the editor, and your turnout at Borough meetings — all that dramatized your concerns and hopes to be heard. After consistent rebuttals, not implementing our petitions, and not even surveying the community at large, it became obvious Borough Council would not recognize the majority voice of the people. Democratic party leader Andrew Koontz even packed the Borough meeting hall one night to the exclusion of many Concerned Citizens. Finally there was no choice but to institute a lawsuit.

Sadly, step-by-step the courts turned down our effort to have an open trial which would have permitted placing Borough officials and others on the stand to testify. While the cause was lost, questions remain why Borough Council used a law that permitted them to condemn a perfectly good $500,000 a year income parking lot, let them give the $13 million project to a former Borough Councilman without public bidding, and let them suppress each of the two referendum petitions.

But, it's over. Your support helped our attorneys, Bill Potter and Bob Zagoria, wage a long and expensive effort to permit the public to hear the facts through a trial. Bill and Bob were totally committed to the cause and put in untold hours on our behalf. We want to thank them publicly for their exceptional involvement and let them know how disappointed they are as, we know, are so many people in Princeton.

Again, our sincere thanks to all who supported Concerned Citizens for so long.

HERB HOBLER
For Concerned Citizens

Open Community Dialogue Encouraged In Determining Fate of Hospital Site

To the Editor:

I support the decision of the Board of Trustees of the University Medical Center at Princeton to build a new, state-of-the-art medical facility on a campus that is close to both Princeton and the Route 1 corridor. Rather than trying to add to, reconfigure, renovate, or readjust space on its current inadequate site, it makes sense to use valuable resources on a new complex, especially given the never-ending advancements in medicine and science and the growth of population in the areas surrounding our magnet community. Given that Princeton is so strategically located along the northeast corridor, the new medical center should receive wide support from the local community, the neighboring townships, the region, and state.

The process of determining what will become of the current site of the hospital must be open and completely transparent. I call again upon the mayors of the Borough and Township, and their respective Council and Committee, to ensure that the process of rezoning — or the establishment of zoning overlays — of the hospital site is a public process that involves citizens from the adjacent neighborhoods as well as public appointees. Elected public officials have the duty to represent the entire citizenry and to seek the common good. Appointed committee or task force members may not always represent the particular concerns of residents or neighbors who will be most affected by the major changes that will occur. If the Health Planning Task Force is to continue to lead the discussion about the hospital site, the mayors should appoint other members who are residents of the adjacent neighborhoods. Additionally, all Task Force meetings and deliberations should be "noticed" in the local papers, open to all residents, and held at times when members of the community are able to attend.

HENDRICKS S. DAVIS
John Street

Borough Councilman Calls on Township To Join Borough's Confidentiality Policy

To the Editor:

In an open public meeting of Princeton Borough's governing body, Borough Police Captain Anthony Federico unequivocally stated that Borough Police do not report to anyone the immigration status of persons who are victims or witnesses to crimes.

Further, in conformity with the weight of authority in the municipal police community, the Borough governing body recently passed a resolution designed to discourage local law enforcement from acting as deputy agents of federal immigration authorities serving civil process. The Borough is also studying an ordinance that would restrict Borough police in providing information to immigration authorities in connection with non-criminal matters.

By these and other means, the Borough is establishing a bright line to protect the confidentiality of crime victims and witnesses (and those who report other events to police, such as fires) so that the entire community may be safer. A victim or witness to a murder, beating, rape, or robbery, or a witness to a fire, should not be discouraged from contacting authorities simply because of his/her immigration status. Immigrants' fear of reporting events to local police threatens public safety — and everyone in the community.

The Township's policy on this issue is not so clear. According to a recent report, one member of Township Committee indicated that representatives of the Hispanic community should "trust" that undocumented aliens who turn to Township police for help will not be reported to federal immigration officials. But Township Committee has taken no official action on this issue.

Further, Township Police Lieutenant Mark Emann, speaking for his department, reportedly indicated that Township police are not "actively" seeking to report immigration violations.

There appears to be a gap between the Borough's developing non-disclosure policy on one hand and the Township's less certain statements on the other. It's time to fill that gap. The Princeton community will be safer if both the Borough and Township have a uniform, publicly stated, unequivocal commitment to the same policy.

Crime and fire do not distinguish between Borough and Township. Immigration status recognizes no municipal boundary. In protecting our public safety, we must act as one community.

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Witherspoon Neighborhood Residents Oppose Its Proposed SID Designation

To the Editor:

Last week's article, "Witherspoon Street Under Scrutiny" (Town Topics, December 8) reported about an informal group of residents concerned that Princeton Future has a preset agenda that does not represent the surrounding neighborhoods' wishes. At public meetings held by Princeton Future regarding Witherspoon Street, the community has firmly expressed the desire for maintaining and increasing residential uses. However, Princeton Future's annual report, dated February, 2004, and recent meeting minutes from the Community Based Neighborhood Retail Initiative Princeton Future Task Force (CBNR), dated November 11, suggest that Princeton Future has plans to commercialize Witherspoon Street and is hoping to use public meetings to legitimize their position.

In the annual report Princeton Future has recommended creating a Special Improvement District (SID) for the downtown area businesses. It also quotes Robert Geddes as saying, "More and more we are thinking of Princeton as a T-shaped town," with Witherspoon Street as the vertical axis. In the meeting minutes from the CBNR, members stated, "The purpose of a SID is the empowerment and improvement of the downtown as a place to do business." Then they agreed that the boundaries of a SID should be a T-shape and "that all of Witherspoon Street should be included."

What is a SID? It is a privately held entity formed to support business recruitment, marketing, and street maintenance services. SIDs are financed by additional taxes to the property owners within the SID. These taxes are used only for the SID and decisions affecting the use of the revenues are made by a board of private property and business owners. A SID is an inherently undemocratic entity because it is run by a private board appointed from within. Unlike with elected officials, citizens have no recourse if they do not like what a SID decides. To be part of a SID you must be a property owner, so it appears that this is a regression to a time when only those who owned property could vote. It functions as an exclusionary tool of modest income people of a variety of ethnic and racial backgrounds in the neighborhood who do not own property. The result will be to homogenize and commercialize Witherspoon Street and eventually the surrounding neighborhoods, an insidious effort of gentrification and "urban removal."

Witherspoon Street is recognized as the spine of our town because of the residential neighborhoods and institutions — Princeton University, the library, the Presbyterian and AME Churches, Community Park School, and Township Municipal Complex — that line the street. They represent our core values of knowledge, spirit, democracy, and human connection. Witherspoon Street is Princeton's Town Commons, and as such is for the public good. It should remain in public hands and its residential neighborhoods strengthened.

HEIDI FICHENBAUM
ANTONIO REINERO
ANDRES REINERO
Carnahan Place

Voice of a Naturalized Citizen Added To Debate About Illegal Immigrants

To the Editor:

As a recently naturalized citizen, I am dismayed by the declining tone of the immigration debate. While I was applying for my green card, the INS shredded my passport. For several months, I was undocumented and could have been assumed to be illegal. If constitutional protections like assumption of innocence and due process were conditional, my apparent status would have disqualified me from receiving them.

Within a mile of my comfortable Princeton home, illegal immigrants live in overcrowded, squalid conditions. They work long, poorly paid hours at jobs that citizens and those who "bother to come here legally" refuse. They find their circumstances a "step up." Many of these "criminals" pay bribes and experience physical danger to get here. It isn't a free ride. If illegal immigration were my only way up to that level, I'd do it in a heartbeat. I wouldn't consider myself a criminal, either; I'd consider myself a survivor. The decision to deport these people is legal and may be appropriate, but their motives in coming here and conduct since getting here is no excuse to mistreat them or reason to despise them.

While I was going through it, I found my own green card process to be frustrating and annoying. I was threatened with deportation during my interview. The citizenship process also took a long time. Looking back on it, I am amazed at my good fortune. I happened to be born in a democratic nation and to receive a university education. I came to this country on a work visa and could come and go as I chose. I suspect that my "grueling" process would be the envy of those who don't come from Western European or predominantly white nations. I cannot resent those who, lacking my privileges, try anything they can to get here.

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Squabble Over Snowden Lane Sidewalk Exacerbated by Threatened Lawsuit

To the Editor:

The Snowden Lane residents' threatened lawsuit over the proposed construction of a sidewalk on their properties represents the latest example of a growing trend. Disgruntled citizens have begun to sue our local government when they have not been able to achieve their agenda democratically, i.e., when they have personally disagreed with the decisions of our duly elected representatives.

Our local governments have had to defend, with public monies intended for maintenance of the local infrastructure, against lawsuits from citizens disagreeing with the plebiscite position on various public policy initiatives such as decisions to preserve the local ecosystem over preservation of the local deer population, downtown development, library locations, and now a sidewalk.

I did not enter into the debate on the Snowden Lane sidewalk, not wishing to offend our neighbors. It was with the expectation that there was no need to do so, assuming our local government would enforce building a long overdue and necessary sidewalk.

After all, while these citizens had a natural reluctance to accept the building of a sidewalk on their properties, Snowden Lane is indisputably an exceptionally hazardous route for pedestrians and cyclists. It is a fast, uninterrupted road from Herrontown Road to Nassau Street, and large portions lack any safe shoulder upon which to walk or bike. There are no good substitutes: it is the most expeditious north-south route for the Princeton area east of Harrison Street, and represents the shortest route to schools, towns, and synagogues for the Littlebrook neighborhoods.

How do the Snowden Lane residents defend their objection to the sidewalk? It seems their objection has two main features:

1) They have put forward the absurd argument that Snowden Lane in fact does not represent a safety hazard because they can't recall any accidents.

2) They understandably regret the necessity of cutting down beautiful trees, a lovely feature of the road. However, how does one balance the life of a tree, its aesthetic value notwithstanding, with the life of a single human being and find it equal?

We must trust that our local government will protect us from ill-conceived projects that serve narrow interests at the expense of the public good. And let us challenge our neighbors who use lawsuits to achieve what they could not persuade us to do.

AMY ELLIS
Wittmer Court

University's Zoning Variance Request Warrants Opposition at Board Hearing

To the Editor:

On Thursday, December 16 at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall, Princeton University will present its arguments to the Borough Zoning Board of Adjustment, to change the zoning of the Olden Street properties from the current residential use to non-residential use. The proposed structure includes several thousand square feet of area, and sections are three and four stories tall. Special variances for loading, parking, coverage, floor area ratio, yard, and set-backs are also requested.

Princeton University has owned the Olden Street homes for more than a decade. Having been abandoned since their purchase, they are now earmarked for demolition. They are an anchor and gateway to an established Princeton neighborhood of "moderately" priced homes, which are currently being purchased by the University as quickly as they become available. In keeping with its revised plan to extend the campus along the eastern side of Nassau Street, from Alexander Road to Harrison Street, the University has been purchasing property on Williams Street, Murray Place, and throughout those neighborhood streets flanking Nassau Street and leading to the Harrison Street playground.

Currently the master plan specifically identifies halting the erosion of once thriving residential neighborhoods as a top priority. The goal to "preserve and protect the character of established neighborhood" is reiterated in the 2001 Reexamination Report.

The problem of eroding residential neighborhoods is of serious concern to all of us. It immediately ratchets up the tax bill and drives gentrification while reducing the housing stock, and it increases the demand for infrastructure services and resources on an already strained Borough budget. Furthermore, the erosion of our neighborhoods significantly impacts the quality of life in our community in every way — socially, economically, and culturally.

Past University acquisition of valuable revenue-producing commercial and educational property has been a tragic economic and cultural-social loss to the Borough community. This rich and powerful research and development organization cannot be stopped or apparently sated in its grab for prime real estate in once quaint and thriving neighborhoods. However, our zoning laws can protect our community's interests and retention of tax revenues and how that land is used. We have paid for our place at the table; we are all important stakeholders in Princeton Borough.

Please plan to attend the hearing and take your rightful place as stewards of this very special community.

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West Windsor's Position on Patriot Act Was Unsupported Without Public Forum

To the Editor:

On Monday, December 6, we attended the West Windsor Township Council meeting because we heard they were drafting a resolution to refute parts of the Patriot Act. During the public discourse, some people spoke in favor of it. We and another person, former Township Mayor Jack Flood, made the point that this was not the responsibility of the Council, and there were other avenues the members could pursue to protest it. We also felt that this issue should have had a public forum, rather than be decided by five people. Ultimately, it was passed with three in favor and one abstention. One of the draftees of the resolution, Councilman Charles Morgan, wasn't even there to vote for it. But the comments afterwards were even more disturbing to us. Ms. Miller and Ms. Alberts, who voted for the resolution, admitted they never read the Act. The Council president said that he read only 60 pages, but didn't like any of it.

More disturbing is the fact that Councilwomen Miller and Alberts felt that their roles as Council members extended beyond local issues to include federal issues. Ms. Alberts made another astonishing remark — that people might be afraid to write to their representatives and that is was the Council's job to speak for them. Afraid to write their representatives!? Too busy, maybe. Uninvolved, perhaps. But we can't believe they would be afraid.

There are enough issues important to West Windsor to keep our Council very busy. Councilwoman Kristin Appleget said it very succinctly when she commented that the role of local government was to confine itself to local issues. If Ms. Miller and Ms. Alberts want to expand their roles in government, let them run for higher office.

ROBERT and JANE COX
Princeton Junction

CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 15

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Holiday Open House; Morven Museum and Garden, 55 Stockton Street.

12:30 p.m.: Book reading and signing with Paula Bramsen Cullen; Princeton University Store.

6:30 and 8:30 p.m.: *Carols of Many Nations* with Jubilate Deo and Cantate Domino Choirs; Miller Chapel, Princeton Theological Seminary.

7 p.m.: Holiday Music Concert with Dotty and Friends; 1860 House Cafe, The Montgomery Center for the Arts, Skillman.

7:30 p.m.: *A Christmas Carol*; McCarter Theatre. Also Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 1 and 5:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.: Mercer County Community College Jazz Band; Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College.

9:30 p.m.: Eric Mintel Quartet; Triumph Brewing Company, Nassau Street.

Thursday, December 16

5:30 p.m.: Princeton Regional Board of Education Meeting; Valley Road Administration Building, Witherspoon Street.

8 p.m.: Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing; Borough Hall.

10 p.m.: The 609 Band; Triumph Brewing Company, Nassau Street.

Friday, December 17

6:45 and 7:15 p.m.: Lantern Walking Tour of Washington Crossing State Park. Registration required; call (609) 737-2515.

7 p.m.: Community Swing Dance with PHS Studio Band; Princeton High School Cafeteria.

8 p.m.: *A Christmas Story*; Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College. Also Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.

8 p.m.: *A Bedfull of Foreigners*; Off-Broadstreet Theatre, Hopewell. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

8 p.m.: Community Holiday Party, with folk singer Allison Moore; Arts Council of Princeton.

8 p.m.: Greater Princeton Youth Orchestra benefit concert; St. Anthony Church, Trenton.

10:30 p.m.: Victoria Warne Blues Band; Triumph Brewing Company, Nassau Street.

Saturday, December 18

10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.: *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*; Off-Broadstreet Theatre, Hopewell.

11 a.m. and 1 p.m.: *Babes in Toyland*; Bucks County Playhouse, New Hope, Pa.

1 and 2:30 p.m.: Lecture, *The Christmas Night Crossing and the Bottle of Trenton*; Washington Crossing State Park, Titusville.

1 and 4:30 p.m.: American Repertory Ballet's *The Nutcracker*; State Theatre, New Brunswick. Also Sunday at 1 and 4:30 p.m.

3 p.m.: *Soup to Nuts, a Nutcracker Story*; Mount-Burke Theatre, Peddie School, Hightstown. Also Sunday at 1 and 4 p.m.

7:30 p.m.: Tom Wopat; Berlind Theatre.

8 p.m.: The American Boychoir; Princeton University Chapel.

8 p.m.: Westminster Community Chorus and Chamber Choir; Bristol Chapel, Westminster Choir College.

8 p.m.: Candlelight Concert, *Festival of Lessons and Carols* with Voices Chorale of Pennington; Princeton Methodist Church.

10:30 p.m.: Stonewater Groove Rock Band; Triumph Brewing Company, Nassau Street.

Sunday, December 19

2 p.m.: Catfish Blues Band; Failte Coffeehouse, Hopewell. Free.

3 p.m.: Candlelight Concert, *Festival of Lessons and Carols* with Voices Chorale of Pennington; Pennington Presbyterian Church, Pennington.

3 p.m.: Belle Mead Ballet Company, *The Nutcracker*; Rider University, Lawrenceville.

3 p.m.: Greater Trenton Symphony Orchestra; Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Trenton.

4 p.m.: The American Boychoir; Richardson Auditorium.

4 p.m.: Singers Forum Princeton Youth Program Holiday Concert; Princeton Arts Council.

4 p.m.: Princeton Society of Musical Amateurs reading of Bach's *Magnificat*; Princeton Unitarian Church.

8 p.m.: Concert, *A Portuguese Christmas Vespers*, with Fuma Sacra; Bristol Chapel, Westminster Choir College. Also Monday at 8 p.m.

Monday, December 20

5 p.m.: Township Committee; Township Municipal Complex.

7:30 p.m.: Bach's Brandenburg Concerti, with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center; Richardson Auditorium.

Tuesday, December 21

5:30 p.m.: Princeton Public Library Board of Trustees; Princeton Public Library.

7:30 p.m.: *A Christmas Carol*; McCarter Theatre. Also Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., Thursday at 3 and 7:30 p.m., Friday at noon and 4 p.m.

8 p.m.: Princeton Regional Schools Board Meeting; John Witherspoon Middle School.

Wednesday, December 22

Noon: Drumthwacket Tour. Every Wednesday. Reservation required; call (609) 683-0591.

7 p.m.: EnCorp Theatre School's *A Superstor Christmas*; Villa Victoria Auditorium, Ewing.

7:30 p.m.: Annual Princeton High School Winter Concert, with two orchestras, three choirs; Princeton University Chapel.

7:30 p.m.: *A Christmas Carol*; McCarter Theatre. Also Thursday at 3 and 7:30 p.m., Friday at noon and 4 p.m.

8 p.m.: Mercer County Symphonic Band; Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College.

9:30 p.m.: Mutlu funk-jazz band; Triumph Brewing Company, Nassau Street.

Thursday, December 23

10 p.m.: Friends of Sage; Triumph Brewing Company, Nassau Street.

Friday, December 24

5 to 6 p.m.: Christmas Eve Caroling; Palmer Square.

Saturday, December 25 Christmas Day

1 p.m.: Christmas Day Crossing of Delaware River Reenactment; Washington Crossing State Park, Titusville.

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SENIOR CITIZENS CALENDAR

Wednesday, Dec. 15- Wednesday, Dec. 22

Information Provided by Senior Resource Center, 924-7108

SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER (SRC)
at Spruce Circle (SC) off Harrison Street.

Abbreviations: Suzanne Patterson Bldg (SPB), Spruce Circle (SC), Redding Circle (RC), Borough Hall (BH), Henry P. Pannell Learning Center (HPLC), Princeton University Art Museum (PUAM)

Need Guidance? Information about resources for the older adult. Call 924-7108

Wednesday, Dec. 15:
9:30 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
10:30 a.m. Let's Talk; RC.
1:00 p.m. Blood Prossure; SC.
4:00 p.m. HOLIDAY PARTY; SPB.

Thursday, Dec. 16:
9:30 a.m. Yoga; SPB.
10:00 a.m. Russian Plays off the Page; SPB.
11:00 a.m. Let's Talk in English Too!; RC.
1:00 p.m. Art; SPB.
3:00 p.m. Pilates; SPB.

Friday, Dec. 17:
9:30 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
10:30 a.m. Art; SPB.
10:45 a.m. Ping-Pong; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Brown Bag "Identity Theft #2"; SPB.

Monday, Dec. 20:
9:30 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
11:00 a.m. Chair Exercise; SC.
1:00 p.m. Strength Training; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Coping with Bereavement "Carrying the Legacy into the New Year"; SPB.
1:30 p.m. Wonder of Wordplay; SPB.

Tuesday, Dec. 21:
9:00 a.m. Blood Pressure; RC.
11:15 a.m. Chair Yoga; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Social Bridge; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Scrabble; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Renaissance of Europe (Italy); SC.
1:30 p.m. Computer Lab; SPB.

Wednesday, Dec. 22:
9:30 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
10:30 a.m. Let's Talk; RC.
1:30 p.m. Let's Talk in English; SC.
3:00 p.m. Let's Talk Too; SC.
5:30 p.m. Memoir Writing; SC.

TV30 Schedule from Wed. 12/15/04 to Tue. 12/21/04 (programs may be changed without further notice)

Programs	Wed 12/15	Th. 12/16	Fri. 12/17	Sat 12/18	Sun 12/19	Mon 12/20	Tue 12/21
Mercer County News	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM			10:00 AM
Cooking Show	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
Women's Global Perspectives - "Holistic Approech to Health"		11:00 AM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM	
Vox Artis. Interviews with local artists	11:00 AM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM
"Peek-a-boo Turtle" - Children's Show	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM
Tempo (music education) with Dr. John Meyers	12:00 PM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM
International Vision: students playing music	12:30 PM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM
Taiji Jian (32 Posture Forms) demonstreted by Zhang Yun	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM
Peggy Seeger - singer, play guitar, benjo and English concertina on "Horses Singing"	2:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:30 PM
"Evolution of Behevioral Difference Between Boys end Girls, Gays and Streights: Why It's So Herd to Change the Geme" by Prof. LEE SILVER, PU	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM
Christmas Jah-Guide Reggae Concert	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	S:30 PM	5:30 PM
Peggy Seeger - singer, play guitar, benjo and English concertina on "Horses Singing"	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM
Mercer County News (Mon.-Fri.) & WZBN in Spenish (Sat. & Sun.)	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
A FISTFUL OF P*O*P*C*O*R*N Princeton's movie review	8:00 PM			8:00 PM		8:00 PM	
Ultimate Frisbee - Johny Walker Bowl (2004)		8:00 PM	8:00 PM		8:00 PM		8:00 PM
VOX ARTIS. Interviews with Local Artists, www.VoxArtis.tv	9:00 PM			9:00 PM		9:00 PM	
"Evolution of Behavioral Difference Between Boys and Girls, Gays and Straights: Why It's So Hard to Change the Game" by Prof. LEE SILVER, PU	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM
Café Improv monthly show	11:00 PM	11:00 PM	11:00 PM	11:00 PM	11:00 PM	11:00 PM	11:00 PM
Cooking Show	1:00 AM	1:00 AM	1:00 AM	1:00 AM	1:00 AM	1:00 AM	1:00 AM

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Student Shot

continued from page 1

yet found evidence that this juvenile victim was a member of any gang, said Sgt. Pedro Medina of the Trenton Police.

The incident is under investigation and the Trenton Police are urging anyone with any additional information to contact Detective Robert Mathes at (609) 989-4181, or call the confidential tip line at (609) 989-3663.

—Candace Braun

Ten Thousand Villages Donates to JW School

Ten Thousand Villages at the Princeton Shopping Center will donate 15 percent of their sales to the Parent Teacher Organization of the John Witherspoon Middle School on Thursday, December 16, from 5-9 p.m. This program is an opportunity to give gifts personally, globally, and locally.

Ten Thousand Villages is a non-profit, fair trade organization which carries handcrafted gifts and decorations made by artisans in disadvantaged areas of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. For additional information, call (609) 683-4464.

Four Births Reported At Princeton Hospital

The Princeton HealthCare System has reported four births to area residents during the week ending December 13.

The babies, all boys, were born to Li Pan and Wenying Li, Lawrenceville, December 7; Anna and Jacob Sorenson, Princeton, December 7; Eva and Elchanan Ben-Porath, Princeton, December 8; and Catalina Gonzalez and Domingo Vasquez, Princeton, December 8.

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GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT: Julia Rourke of Cranbury, Harry Skopas of Princeton and Anne Hurley of Princeton Junction created a gingerbread house together as part of the many holiday activities taking place at Stuart Country Day School.

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The American Boychoir sings carols from around the world including selections from its new holiday CD, *Voices of Angels— Christmas Favorites from The American Boychoir.* Music will be interwoven with seasonal readings in the glorious acoustics of the Princeton University Chapel.

Saturday, December 18, 2004
8:00 p.m.

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For tickets, call 1-888-8OYCHOIR

Winter Wonderland

Celebrate the holiday season in Princeton with The American Boychoir's traditional gift of carols, popular holiday favorites—even an audience sing-a-long!

Sunday, December 19, 2004
4:00 p.m.

Richardson Auditorium,
Alexander Hall
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey
$40, $30, $20
For tickets, call 609-258-5000,
12:00–6:00 p.m.
Monday–Friday

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Proposed Jazz Club

Continued from page 1

municipal land-use law allows an applicant to appear before the Zoning Board with simply a "use" portion of the application or with an entire site plan.

Also, when Mr. Distler's application was approved, he provided testimony by a traffic engineer, a planner, and Mr. Smith to give the board more specific information on the project.

But residents opposed to the club argued that not all residents, namely those within 200 feet of Stefanelli's, were notified, as required for all applicants seeking a use variance from the zoning board.

David Goodman, a Duffield Place resident and a plaintiff in the suit against the zoning board, had hoped a judge's remand would allow more residents to be involved in the process. The litigation is likely to move forward, however.

If the zoning board were to revisit the application, it would occur after the Township holds its annual re-organization meeting where mayor and committee appoint new board members to various municipal entities. Two zoning board members who voted against the jazz club application, Antonio Pirone and Noel Gordon, are both either slated to have their terms renewed or are subject to replacement when their terms expire on December 31. Primary board members, like Mr. Pirone, hold three-year terms. Mr. Gordon, who is an alternate board member who fills in when others are absent, is carrying out a two-year term. Mr. Gordon was involved in the jazz club application vote because Penelope Baskerville, a primary zoning board member and Birch Avenue resident, had to recuse herself from deliberation because of her involvement in the lawsuit.

Millard Riggs, who voted in favor of the application, also faces an expiring term.

The application, which had been deemed "complete" by the zoning board after undergoing several internal reviews, now looks as though it will be subject to review once again. At the time of the initial approval in April, Mr. Rodrigues offered a prognosis that now appears relevant: "My guess is that many of these issues will probably resurface."

—Matthew Hersh

100,000 Candles Will Benefit Womanspace

Communities of Light 2004 is under way in Mercer County and will once again benefit Womanspace, Inc., a non-profit organization providing crisis intervention and support services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

On Sunday, December 19, residents and businesses will light 100,000 luminary candles along driveways and sidewalks as a symbol of hope for all those who struggle with violence in their homes.

The artistic Director of McCarter Theatre, Emily Mann, is serving as Honorary Chairwoman for the project.

In 2002 and 2003, through the support of over a thousand volunteers, Womanspace was able to light thousands of luminary candles around Mercer County. In 2003 the effort was joined by Womens' Crisis Services in Hunterdon County and Resource Center for Women & Their Families in Somerset County. Women Aware, from Middlesex County, will be joining Communities of Light 2004.

A Sunday was chosen for the lighting because it is the day that most cases of domestic violence are reported. Rain dates for the lighting are December 26 and December 31. Each luminary kit will cost $10 and include materials for six luminaries to light approximately 100 linear feet. Kits are available through neighborhood volunteers and at many retail locations in Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, and Somerset counties and online at www.womanspace.org. All proceeds in Mercer County will benefit Womanspace, helping ensure that victims of domestic violence and their families will have a safe place to turn to when in crisis.

Founded in 1977, Womanspace Inc. is the only non-profit agency in Mercer County serving victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Womanspace offers emergency and crisis services including 24-hour hotlines, counseling, and legal assistance for victims, survivors, and their families. In the past 27 years more than 8,000 women and their children have found shelter in the secure location and more than 183,745 callers have been assisted through the crisis hot lines.

Volunteers Needed To Help The Poor File Tax Returns

Catholic Charities of Trenton is seeking volunteers to participate as tax return preparers in their Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. The VITA program began last year when the agency was contacted by the Internal Revenue Service and asked to help needy individuals and families obtain the earned income credits to which they were entitled.

A five day training course is available in January to aide in passing an open book test to qualify for Internal Revenue Service certification. People knowledgeable and experienced about tax returns do not need to attend the course. The volunteers will work with clients one or two days a week from the beginning of February until April 15.

Refunds can make an enormous difference in the lives of low income individuals and their families. The credit is structured to reward work and alleviate need. A family earning $10,000 to $12,000 can revive a maximum amount of $4,300 and an additional $860 from the State of New Jersey. The amount of the refund tapers off as earnings increase.

Many people do not have enough income to incur an income tax liability, and for that reason they fail to file tax returns. They are not always aware of the opportunity for earned income credit refunds.

For additional information on how to volunteer for this program, call Daniel Lundy at (609) 492-7106.

Princeton Academy Gets Edison Grant of $24,000

Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart has received a grant from the Charles Edison Fund of Newark to underwrite a new mobile computer lab. The grant, in the amount of $24,340, provides 16 new iBook G4 laptop computers in a mobile cart. The lab also includes an InFocus projector that projects images from a laptop to a presentation screen, as well as a new color laser printer.

The Academy incorporates the use of laptop computers in its academic program, beginning in junior kindergarten utilizing educational software designed to supplement reading and math skills. First through fourth grade students use computers for research, primarily in social studies, science, and religion classes. As the students transition to Middle School, the curriculum incorporates computers in all academic areas, focusing on research and writing skills.

The mobile lab expands the resources available to students to work on their 7th and 8th grade independent science projects, a key component of the Middle School's science curriculum.

The Charles Edison Fund is an endowed philanthropic institution dedicated to supporting areas of medical research, science education, and historic preservation.

THE LAUNCHING OF COMMUNITIES OF LIGHT 2004: Communities of Light 2004 began on the steps of McCarter Theatre on November 16 at an event hosted by Honorary Chair and McCarter Theatre Executive Director Emily Mann (at the podium). From left: Kristin Marvin Keller, Communities of Light co-chair; Patricia Hart, executive director of Womanspace; Laura Lawler, PNC Bank; Cynthia Ricker, PNC Bank; Kevin McManimon, Mason, Griffin & Pierson; Ms. Mann; Cathy Cummings, executive director, and Susan Klejst, director, Resource Center for Women and Their Families; Yvonne Hook, Women Aware development director; and Vanessa LaFranco, RBC Dain Raucher.

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Hospital Move

continued from page 1

outlined in its recently-released master plan. He ultimately determined in late-September that if the hospital were to follow its goals, that is, to function adequately in the future medical world, to provide the cost of on-going maintenance, and to accommodate desired increases in service intensity, it would ultimately compel it to relocate somewhere nearby. Prof. Sager warned at the time that if the hospital were to expand on-site to accommodate its needs for the next 25 years, UMCP would revisit the same issues it faces today.

In recent meetings, the task force, which is composed of Borough and Township planning, zoning, and elected officials, has explored the possibility of achieving the hospital's goals on-site. It entertained the idea of building a 13-story building, and expanding outward onto neighboring streets, namely Franklin Avenue, Harris Road, and Henry Avenue.

But at those meetings and again at last Wednesday's forum, Jan Bishop, an architect with Princeton-based Hillier Architecture who specializes in hospital architecture and planning, recommended that the hospital not expand into the surrounding neighborhood. "In 25 years, you are going to be asking the same questions," she said, echoing Prof. Sager's prognosis.

For the record, the hospital has offered no indication that it will stay or go, and the task force will resume their study in March, when other sites occupied by PHCS will be examined.

But after revisiting the on-site expansion issue, the task force quickly went ahead Wednesday to explore possible future uses for the 11.76-acre site, if the hospital were to leave.

"What you see here, is that the more we ask [the hospital] to project into the future, the less likely it became that we were going to arrive at anything that the task force would be able to recommend," said Marvin Reed, chairman of the task force.

"We're at the point now, where we want to take some time out and look at alternative uses [of the site] if we couldn't give [UMCP] enough expansion space in order to justify the investment they would have to make."

Mr. Reed did say, however, that he did not "foresee" the hospital moving out and leaving its buildings empty, indicating that re-occupation plans would be firmly entrenched by the time the hospital makes a decision.

An empty facility "doesn't help the hospital, and it certainly doesn't help us," Mr. Reed added. "Our interest is to see what can happen on that site other than a boarded-up hospital."

Secondly, Mr. Reed said it was also "unlikely" that if the hospital were to move, that all the current buildings would be torn down for something new, indicating that several of the current buildings could be converted for alternate usage.

The problem is zoning, Mr. Reed said. The site, which straddles the Borough/Township municipal line, is largely zoned for hospitals or for a mix of hospital and residential use. Some of the site that lies in the Township is zoned for a mix of business and residential use.

Mr. Reed said the desire of the task force was to make sure the site was not divided divided into "bits and pieces" and sold off to various developers, saying there should be "special design standards [and a] comprehensive, total development." He added that any future use should generate less traffic and allow for the re-use of existing structures.

John Street resident Hendricks Davis said that any recommendations put forth by the task force should not only require resident input, but that the task force itself should include members of the community.

In expressing his desire to see the hospital site developed as a total package, Mr. Reed likened such development to that of Palmer Square, a sentiment that did not sit well with some members of the Witherspoon-Jackson neighborhood. Several blocks of that neighborhood were razed or relocated to build Palmer Square beginning in 1929.

"That caused me some concern," Mr. Davis said. "That's problematic language in the neighborhood in which I live."

Mr. Reed said he used Palmer Square as an example because it is a prominent instance of planned development in Princeton, "but I'll tell you right off the bat, one of the mistakes that happened [with Palmer Square] is that they waited for the developer to make the proposal, and what I'm suggesting here is that the town should be much more precise as to what its goals and objectives are."

"We should not wait until Hovnanian shows up at the planning board."

The Merwick Rehab Hospital and Nursing site on Bayard Lane, which would also be affected by a Princeton HealthCare System move, was not specifically addressed, but task force members said that would be a topic of future discussions, adding they started with the hospital because the issues at hand were more "complicated" as far as zoning was concerned.

Residents were generally pleased with the discussion process, but indicated that while this is the final task force meeting until spring, there is a significant amount of dialogue that has yet to take place. Quickly moving toward the senior housing issue, several residents said senior and affordable housing should be a priority to keep residents from leaving town for less expensive living.

"We should be thinking about why people should have to move out when they are fragile," said Borough resident Fran Benson.

Mr. Reed left the discussion open-ended, pointing out that the requirements handed down by new regulations put forth by the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) have yet to be discussed for any future tenant of the hospital site. The new COAH regulations, which require stricter affordable housing requirements on developers, are set to take effect on Monday.

Barry Rabner, president and CEO of Princeton HealthCare System, also opened the door for future discussion. "I do not know what the best solution is — there are a lot of them."

One future obstacle for the hospital, Mr. Rabner added, is the state review process for any application put forth by PHCS that could directly impact any relocation prospects.

—Matthew Hersh

NEW CULINARY CREATIONS: Pamela Nicholas, new executive chef of The Mansion Inn, has been busy supervising the kitchen, creating menus, experimenting with new recipes, and working with her team. She believes in simplicity, quality, and consistency. The Mansion Inn is a Victorian manor home located on South Main Street in New Hope, Pennsylvania.

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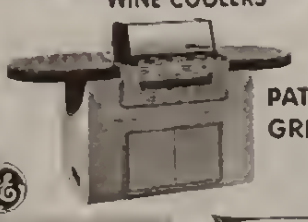

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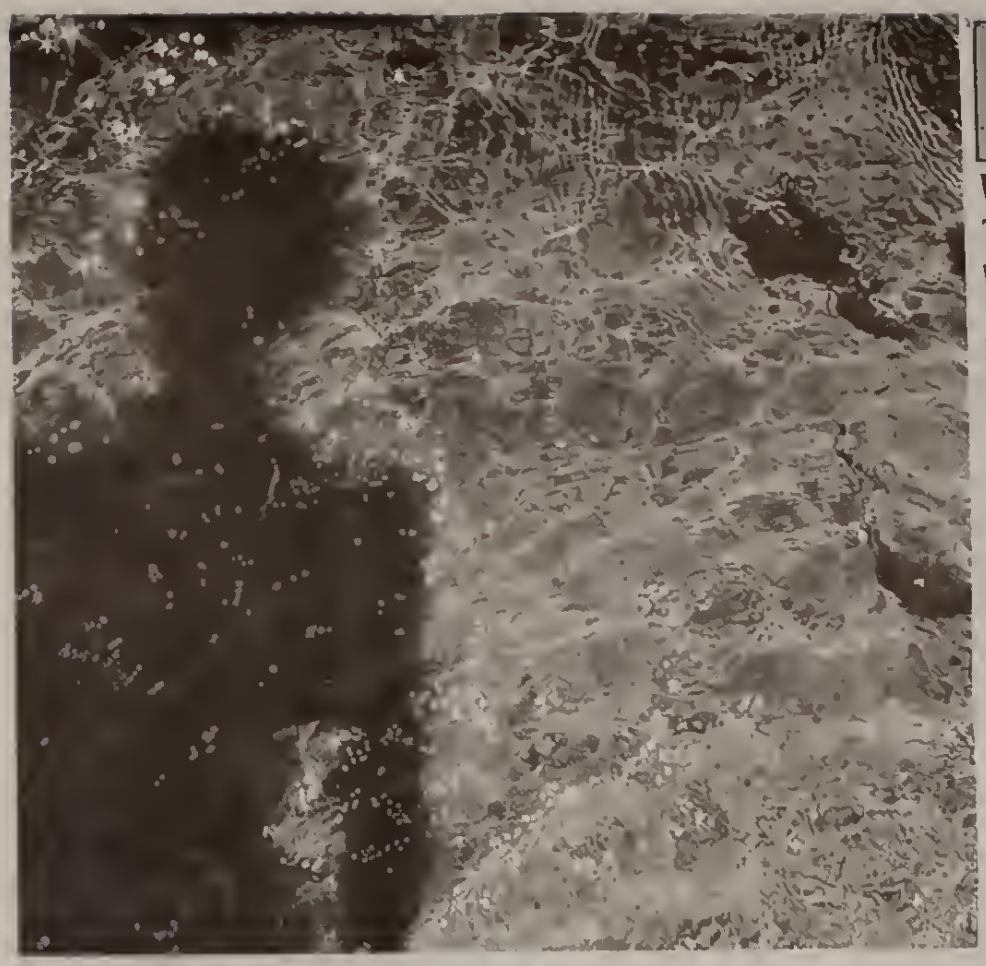

"WATERSHADOWS": The Witherspoon Gallery, located at Holsome Teas and Herbs at 27 Witherspoon Street, will host a two-person show starting Friday that will feature the sculpture of Joseph Petrovics and the digital photography of Madelaine Shellaby, above. Ann Ridings, a Princeton resident and painter, has recently been hired to run the new gallery.

PHILLY JOE: The Arts Council of Princeton's WPA Gallery is will host "Images of Jazz: The View Beyond the Music," and exhibit of photographs by H. Alonzo Jennings. The show will feature black and white photographs of jazz performers taken in clubs, concert halls, and festivals spanning from 1976 through the present. Included in the exhibit are images of legendary drummer Philly Joe Jones, above, who is perhaps best known as a key component of Miles Davis' rhythm section, as well as the skins man on John Coltrane's *Blue Train*. There will be an opening reception for the show on December 27 from 6 to 9 p.m. The show will run through January 3.

Witherspoon Gallery To Kick Off Season With Two-Person Show

A new art gallery on Witherspoon Street in Princeton will launch its first show under the vision of artist Ann Ridings this Friday. Ridings has been hired to run the new gallery.

The Witherspoon Gallery, located at Holsome Teas and Herbs at 27 Witherspoon Street, will host a two-person show featuring the works of Joseph Petrovics and Madelaine Shellaby.

Petrovics, a Hungarian-born sculptor will show works in wood, stone, and bronze. A side note, the artist is currently working on a 56-foot horizontal raised relief in bronze for the Twin Towers memorial in lower Manhattan.

Petrovics first began work on his segment of the show, "Skyscrapers in the Clouds, Urban Clouds, and Colliding Skyscrapers," back in 1988. "From that moment on, I have been thinking and searching for an opportunity to express this idea in stone," he said.

After moving to the U.S. with his family in 1988, the artist commuted into the city everyday for work. "Day after day, I was impressed by the skyscrapers in the distance. Approaching the city, the skyscrapers would grow bigger and bigger, like endless columns."

Selecting the right stone, the right size, and the right shape is "crucial," Petrovics said. After several drawings and sketches of proposed pieces, he then chooses the stones for the compositions. "I always do direct carving, 'true to the stone,' I work with organic shapes, not forcing the material beyond its own nature."

Madelaine Shellaby

Madelaine Shellaby's portion of the show will include her collection of digitally-composed archival prints. They involve the process of reproducing original photographs, in the vein of lithography, etching, and silkscreen.

Her segment of the show, "The Digital Body," explores the human body. "Body forms are abstracted and the color and texture of the digital medium is pushed for its unique character."

In Shellaby's prints the photographic pixels are virtually invisible. With a high number of dots per inch, the pixels do not disrupt the image, Shellaby said. "This surface at close range has the potential for taking the viewer through the image, while at a distance, it presents greater solidity and clarity."

The show will open this Friday, December 17, and run through January 24. There will be an artists' reception on opening day from 6 to 8 p.m. Witherspoon Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call Ann Ridings at (609) 921-1799.

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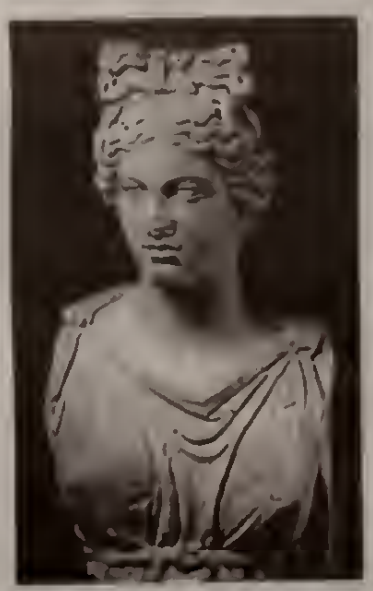

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African Art and "Voices" At Philadelphia Museum

An exhibition at the Philadelphia Museum of Art is trying to change the way you look at African art. Typically, when exhibited in the museum setting, African art appears frozen in an "alien" frame. The music, movement, and debate that once surrounded the mask, sculpture, ring, or stool are noticeably missing. Also absent is the immediate context for these objects, the traditional cultures in which they functioned.

"African Art, African Voices: Long Steps Never Broke a Back," takes an "insider's" approach to African art. Reframing the objects, "African Art, African Voices" looks at what was once done with them while also listening carefully to what was once said in their presence.

Drawn primarily from the excellent collections of the Seattle Art Museum, the exhibition is organized into thematic categories described by representatives from various African cultures and backgrounds. Personal narrative, interactive media, and contextual information breathe life into the many diverse and beautiful art objects on display.

The show includes approximately 130 objects, including sculptures, masks, textiles, jewelry, photographs, films, and contemporary art. The exhibition is supplemented by video projections, computer interviews, and an audio tour.

Cameroon Sculpture

The exhibition was organized by Pamela McClusky, Curator of African and Oceanic Art at the Seattle Art Museum. The exhibition is coordinated in Philadelphia by John Zarobell, Assistant Curator of European Painting and Sculpture before 1900, Philadelphia Museum of Art.

A book accompanying this exhibition was published by the Seattle Art Museum in conjunction with Princeton University Press. Titled *Art from Africa: Long Steps Never Broke a Back*, it includes essays by Robert Farris Thompson, Professor of African and African American Art History at Yale University, and Pamela McClusky, Seattle's founding curator of the Department of the Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas. Known for his scintillating analyses of African art, Thompson devotes his opening essay to introducing the missing dimension of motion, exploring the meaning of postures and gestures in various African cultures. McClusky explores subjects ranging from royal art of the Kom and Asante kingdoms, masquerades from the Yoruba, Dan, and Mende cultures, sculpture from the Kongo region, a Mercedes-Benz coffin from the streets of Ghana, photographs from Mali, and Maasai body ornaments.

The show is located in the Dorrance Special Exhibition Galleries on the first floor of the museum at Benjamin Franklin Parkway and 26th Street in Philadelphia. It will run through January 2. For more information, call (215) 763-8100, or visit www.philamuseum.org.

Array of Local Artists At Peddie School Gallery

The Community Arts Partnership at the Peddie School (CAPPS) has received over 100 works for the "Salon de Hightstown-East Windsor," a community art exhibit.

Over 30 artists contributed the works that were received over the weekend, and will be hung this week in anticipation of the opening on Friday evening. "We are ecstatic that the community responded with such enthusiasm. From children to seniors, and amateurs to professionals, it is clear that there is a tremendous amount of interest and talent in the arts in our community," said Robert Rund, executive director of CAPPS. "This promises to be a truly remarkable exhibit, and hopefully a catalyst for more such events in the future," Rund added.

"Works submitted span a variety of media as well," said gallery curator, Michael Maxwell. "From paintings and photography to sculpture and installations, there is a little something for everyone," he added. "We have received works from at least four professional artists who have studios at Art Station in Hightstown, and we are also pleased to show works from students at The Eden Institute." The Eden Institute is located in Princeton and serves children and adults with autism. "The end result is a very clear example of the fact that art is for everyone, and that it holds a powerful place in any vibrant community."

For more information on the show and other CAPPS programs, call (609) 490-7550, e-mail capps@peddie.org, or visit www.peddie.org/capps.

TOWN TOPICS classified ads get results.

"SALON DE HIGHTSTOWN": The Community Arts Partnership at the Peddie School (CAPPS) in Hightstown has received over 100 works for the "Salon de Hightstown-East Windsor", a community art exhibit. Over 30 artists contributed the works.

"NIGHTFALL": The work of artist Myles Cavanaugh, above, will be shown through January 1 at the Riverrun Gallery at 287 South Main Street in Lambertville. For more information, call (609) 273-2983.

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Grants for N.J. Arts Given By Bristol-Myers Squibb

Bristol-Myers Squibb has announced that it will be giving more than $255,000 in contributions to fund art and cultural institutions in New Jersey.

Nineteen organizations will receive grants, among them Drumthwacket Foundation and Morven Renovation, as well as the American Repertory Company of Princeton, McCarter Theatre, the Arts Council of Princeton, the Princeton Public Library, the Historical Society of Princeton, and the Princeton-based Young Audiences of New Jersey.

"With employees throughout New Jersey, Bristol-Myers Squibb recognizes the importance of supporting arts and culture in our communities," said Tom Costa, vice president, International Policy and Government Affairs, and deputy general cousel, Bristol-Myers Squibb. "Whether hosting first-rate performing arts or displaying priceless works of art, each of these institutions is enriching the lives of countless New Jerseyans."

More than half of the organizations funded bring the arts and culture to children in schools and other venues."Exposing our children to visual arts, dance, and theater is an important way to open the minds of young people," Mr. Costa said.

Every year Bristol-Myers Squibb supports local organizations through its local grants program. Last year more than 140 local non-profit organizations received financial support from the company.

'Varied Voices' Heard At J&J Gallery Exhibit

An exhibit featuring the works of artists with different styles, but all affiliated with New Jersey, is currently on display at the Johnson & Johnson World Headquarters Gallery in New Brunswick.

The show, "Varied Voices, New Jersey Artists from the Johnson & Johnson Collection," highlights artists who were either born in, have lived in, or currentiy work in the state, thus leaving the door open to an array of artists, with the seeming ubiquity of New Jersey natives throughout the country. The exhibition responds to the proposal made by Tomás Ybarra-Frausto, associate director of Creativity and Culture at the Rockefeller Foundation, in his keynote address at the 2002 Transcultural New Jersey conference.

"Artists and cultural workers are active promoters of the debate and inquiry necessary to re-envision a new social contract for the global age," he said.

"Transcultural New Jersey: An Arts and Education Initiative," is a yearlong, statewide project documenting the contributions of Latino/Hispanic/Caribbean, African-American, Asian-American, and Native-American New Jersey artists through more than 20 exhibitions at museums, galleries, and arts organizations. The program is designed to highlight the achievements of artists from historically underrepresented populations and provide insight into the state's diverse population, evoke cross-cultural dialogue, and impact curriculum development and education. The program was developed by Rutgers University and the Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum.

"Varied Voices" will run through January 28. The J&J Gallery is located at One Johnson & Johnson Plaza in New Brunswick near Kilmer Square across from Old Man Rafferty's Restaurant. The gallery is open by appointment only by calling (732) 524-6957. For more information, visit www.transculturalnj.org.

"FRUIT VENDORS": This Basa Donna mixed-media piece is part of "Varied Voices, New Jersey Artists from the Johnson & Johnson Collection," an exhibit that highlights artists who were either born in, have lived in, or currently work in the state.

"KENNEBUNKPORT, MAINE": This Linas Kudzma photograph is part of a show currently on display at Gallery 31 in at the corner of Route 31 and Hunt Place in Glen Gardner. "Not So Straight Photography" features works by six artists using processes that are either new or are not often used. The show will run througgh January 2. For more information, call (908) 537-7044.

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Tips: One piece of custom-framed artwork is nice, but groupings really lend flair to a room or an area. Ask your designers at FastFrame Custom Framing and Art Gallery to help you look for pieces that go well together, in terms of sizes and colors.

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Arts Council Schedules "All That Jazz" Evening

The Arts Council of Princeton will host an informal evening of jazz on Monday, December 27, when it presents a concert by the Jazz Squad at 8 p.m. Titled *All That Jazz*, the musical program will follow an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. for *Images of Jazz: The View Beyond the Music*, an exhibit of H. Alonzo Jennings's black-and-white photographs of jazz musicians in performance, on display through January 3.

The reception, which is free, will also feature Mr. Jennings performing his original jazz-inspired poetry accompanied by guitarist and flutist Joe Steele. The exhibit and reception will be held in the Arts Council's WPA Gallery.

Formed in 2002 by Princeton natives Sarah Hommel and Audrey Wright, the Jazz Squad has performed at numerous venues throughout the tri-state area. The band plays a combination of jazz standards, bop tunes, and original compositions by Ms. Hommel. For its Arts Council performance, the band will play several jazz standards associated with the performers featured in Mr. Jennings's photographs.

In addition to Ms. Hommel on drums and Ms. Wright on saxophones and flute, the Jazz Squad includes Andy McLoud on bass and Bruce Edwards on guitar. Mr. McLoud has played extensively with Elvin Jones; Mr. Edwards, a member of the Sun Ra Arkestra, also plays with James Carter.

The Jazz Squad will perform in the Arts Council's upstairs Loft Studio; admission is $5 at the door.

For more information about the Jazz Squad, visit www.jazzsquad.com.

MUSIC REVIEW

Westminster Community Orchestra Celebrates Holiday Season With Monumental Works by Schubert and Handel

There was a plethora of *Messiah* in Princeton this past weekend. As usual, Princeton Pro Musica took over Richardson Auditorium for their annual performances of Handel's *Messiah* on Saturday and Sunday, but the Westminster Community Orchestra jumped the gun with a decision to present portions of the work on Friday night, combining with the Westminster Community Chorus. Community Orchestra conductor Sarah Hatsuko Hicks paired Part I of *Messiah* (with the "Hallelujah Chorus" as an add-on) with Franz Schubert's monumental Symphony Number 9, certainly one of the more challenging works the orchestra has performed.

Schubert's *Great* Symphony focuses heavily on the brass, and the horns and trombones of the orchestra were especially well blended in their support of the rest of the ensemble. Ms. Hicks conducts gracefully, being forceful when she needs to be, but always maintaining the constant motion that is the hallmark of this work. Like his contemporary Beethoven, Schubert closed the movement of his symphonies with alla breves and speedy codas, and the close of the first movement of this symphony was well handled. The coda and final cadences were among the best played measures of the movement.

A consistent pleasure to hear throughout the symphony was first oboist Helen Ackley, who played with great attention to detail, especially when joined with equal consistency by clarinetist David Millrod in the second movement. Ms. Hicks conducted this movement with great sweep, deriving immense homogeneity from the upper strings. In return, the orchestra followed her every move.

The second half of the concert featured the Westminster Conservatory Chorus, conducted by Devin Mariman, and four vocal soloists: soprano Julia Kemp, mezzo-soprano Linda Mindlin, tenor Guy Rothfuss, and baritone Weston Hurt. Although Mr. Mariman conducted with languid fluidity (which the orchestra needed to watch more carefully at times), his overall approach to Part I of Handel's *Messiah* seemed to date from the 19th century, with long, drawn-out cadences to sections and extensive breaks in between musical numbers.

The nineteen arias and choruses are not isolated movements, but part of a musical whole with a flow to the storyline, but the unnecessarily lengthy pauses between each selection made the continuity almost nonexistent. The consistently bright spot in the performance was the choral sound, especially the lightness of the sopranos. In the difficult choruses, the singers expended so much energy on the coloratura that the Italianate nature and style were missing, making the overall effect a bit Prussian, rather than providing a give and take to the text. The coloratura effects were successful, however, especially from the sopranos and basses.

Among the soloists, baritone Weston Hurt was the most refreshing new voice heard in Princeton in a long time. Mr. Hurt held up well under the slow tempi, and sang with understated confidence. In his first solo, "Thus saith the Lord," he was decisive without being overbearing and was consistently dramatic in a subtle manner throughout the performance. Mezzo Linda Mindlin is always steady as a singer, and ably (as well as bravely) maneuvered through a very quick "O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion."

Also refreshing about this performance was the orchestration, which had been augmented from Handel's original by Mozart. A pair of flutes added a nice touch to the lower string and harpsichord continuo, and together with the clarinets and bassoons, caught the audience's attention as they appeared from time to time.

This concert served to remind audiences that yes, it is Christmastime, but also there is a wealth of ensemble activity on the Westminster campus. Although the two ensembles performing Friday night are all-volunteer, they both demonstrated a good solid musical discipline and a number of refined musical touches.

—Nancy Plum

The Westminster Conservatory Orchestra next performance is on March 19, 2005 and will feature the winners of the Piano Concerto Competition. For information call (609) 258-5000.

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Singers Forum Schedules Holiday Concert Sunday

The Singers Forum Princeton Youth Program will hold its third Holiday Concert this Sunday, December 19, at 4 p.m. at the Princeton Arts Council. The concert, performed by the students of the Youth Program, is free to the public. It will be followed by a reception.

Concert planners have hinted that Santa Claus may again pay a visit to congratulate the young artists, as he did last year.

Founded in 1978 by Andy Anselmo and John Albert Harris, Singers Forum is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development and appreciation of the vocal arts. It provides scholarships for vocal training for local youngsters through biweekly private voice lessons taught at the Clay Street Learning Center. The free program is open to students ages 6 to 16 who demonstrate musical interest and financial eligibility.

Among the many Singers Forum alumni are Liza Minnelli, Tony Bennett, Mandy Patinkin, Joanne Woodward, Alec Baldwin and John Leguizamo. The singers perform many free performances annually for senior citizens, hospitals and hospices.

Singers Forum activities are funded in part by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and by the generosity of Princeton residents.

For more information about the Princeton Youth Program and Singers Forum, call (888) NY-SINGS or visit www.singersforum.org.

Young Westminster Singers To Perform at Jersey Shore

The Westminster Conservatory Youth Chorale and Youth Chamber Singers will present a benefit concert entitled *A Toste of the Holidays* on Saturday, December 18 at 7 p.m. at the Jersey Shore Arts Center in Ocean Grove. Concert proceeds will benefit the Center.

The Youth Chorale is conducted by Nicholas McBride and accompanied by Kenneth Phillips. Heather Fetrow conducts the Chamber Singers, which is accompanied by Brian Schkeeper.

The choirs will perform music celebrating the holidays of Christmas and Chanukah. Concert selections will include *Al Hanissim*, *Bashana Hoba'ah*, several movements from Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*, *Ave Maria* by Franz Biebl, and *Glory, Glory, Glory to the Newborn King* by Moses Hogan.

The Westminster Youth Chorale is the high school honors choir of Westminster Conservatory, the community music school of Westminster Choir College.

Mr. McBride, a graduate of Westminster Choir College, is an adjunct instructor of music education at Westminster and a member of the music department in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Public Schools, where he is the choral director at Community Middle School.

Ms. Fetrow received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Westminster Choir College. She teaches private voice at the Conservatory and voice classes at Princeton Academy. She is also the director of the St. Bernard's Children's Choir in Bernardsville.

Music study at the Conservatory is available to students of all ages and stages of advancement. Individual instruction may be taken, exclusive of other class work, or students may choose a more structured approached through the Young Artist Certificate Program, which offers a comprehensive curriculum designed to build total musicianship.

Admission to the concert is $10 for adults and $5 for senior citizens and students. Tickets may be purchased by calling (732) 502-0153.

For more information, visit http://westminster.rider.edu.

State Theatre Presents Julio Iglesias Concert

Latin sensation Julio Iglesias will perform at New Brunswick's State Theatre on Sunday, January 9, at 7 p.m.

During the one-night engagement, Mr. Iglesias will sing such hits as *Moonlight Lady*, *La Cumparsita*, *To All the Girls I Loved Before*, and other songs on his newest album, *Love Songs*, a compilation of his greatest hits.

All together he has sold 250 million records, recorded 76 albums, and has more than 2,650 gold and platinum recordings.

With his own composition *La Vida Sigue Igual* (Life Goes On), Mr. Iglesias won the prestigious song festival in Spain, The Benidorm, in 1968, jump starting a musical career that continues today.

By 1971 he had sold his first million records, and in 1983 he received the first and only Diamond Record Award given to a performer by the Guinness Book of World Records for selling more records in more languages than any other musical artist in history.

Tickets are available for $100, $75, $50 and $25 by calling the State Theatre box office at (732) 246-7469 or toll free at 1-877-STATE-11.

New Jersey Opera Theater Plans 8 Shows at Berlind

The New Jersey Opera Theater (NJOT) has announced that it will bring eight performances of three different operas, with orchestra, to McCarter's Berlind Theatre during August, 2005. The operas include Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, and Massenet's *Chérubin*, all based on plays by the French playwright Beaumarchais.

"A move to McCarter's Berlind Theatre positions our program as one of the most important cultural events of the summer in New Jersey," said Scott Altman, NJOT artistic director. "With the professional resources of McCarter Theatre and the incorporation of a pit orchestra, our artistic capabilities are expanded exponentially."

All operas will be performed in their original language with English captions projected above the stage. To complement the productions, NJOT will offer staged scenes from lesser-known operas by Paisiello, Milhaud, and Corigliano, composers that also championed Beaumarchais. Presented as part of the Opera Theater's Summer Vocal Institute, these productions will spotlight emerging artists and internationally known conductors and directors.

In addition to his artistic responsibilities at New Jersey Opera Theater, Mr. Altman is an active opera singer. He has performed numerous roles at New York City Opera and throughout the United States, including Opera Festival of New Jersey, Austin Lyric Opera, Arizona Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Orlando Opera, Connecticut Grand Opera, and Wolf Trap Opera. He is slated to debut with L'Opéra de Montréal and Fort Worth Opera.

Created in November 2002, NJOT was established to ensure high-quality operatic performance and education in New Jersey throughout the year. The company presented its inaugural season during the summer of 2004 at Princeton University's Hamilton Murray Theatre, where it played to sold out houses.

Tickets for the operas will be available through the McCarter Box Office beginning in March.

For more information, call Mr. Altman at (609) 919-1767.

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Fuma Sacra Schedules Annual Christmas Concert

Fuma Sacra, the resident choral ensemble at Westminster Choir College, will perform its annual Christmas concert in Bristol Chapel on Westminster's campus on Sunday, December 19 and Monday, December 20 at 8 p.m., conducted by Andrew Megill. The ensemble will be joined by the Renaissance band Piffaro for the performances.

Entitled *A Portuguese Christmas Vespers*, the concert will reconstruct the lavishness of Portuguese sacred polyphony in the late Renaissance. The program will include works that would have been performed in the great cathedrals of Lisbon and Coimbra in the late 16th and early 17th centuries.

Founded in 1989, Fuma Sacra is known for its interpretation of early music. Currently ensemble-in-residence at Westminster, it has been acclaimed for its virtuoso performances, which, in the words of Classical New Jersey, "have left the audience gasping in amazement."

Fuma Sacra's first recording, *The Best Nowells That E'er Befell*, includes music from the 10th to the 20th centuries in seven languages. The ensemble's repertoire also includes contemporary music. Earlier this season it performed the American premiere of Caldara's *Moddoleno ai piedi di Cristo*.

A member of Westminster's conducting faculty, conductor Megill is recognized for his repertoire that extends from Renaissance music to newly commissioned works. He has prepared choruses for the

Andrew Megill

American Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, the Spoleto Festival Orchestra, and the Berkshire Opera. In addition to serving as artistic director of Fuma Sacra, he is conductor of Westminster Kantorei, associate conductor of the Westminster Symphonic Choir, chorus master for the Spoleto Festival USA, and music director of the Masterwork Chorus and Orchestra.

Piffaro, founded in 1980, performs music of the late Medieval and Renaissance periods on a varied collection of early wind instruments, augmented by percussion and strings. Modeled after the official civic, chapel, and court bands that were the premier professional ensembles from the 14th to 17th centuries, Piffaro has pursued the instruments and music of the peasantry and rustic life as well.

Under the direction of Joan Kimball and Robert Wiemken, Piffaro produces its own concert series in Philadelphia with three or four programs per year. Excerpts from these concerts are regularly broadcast nationwide on National Public Radio's *Performonce Todoy*. The band has toured throughout the United States and Europe.

Tickets are $20 for adults and $15 for senior citizens and students. To order, call (609) 921-2663 on weekdays between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Auditions Scheduled For Musical Production

Playful Theatre Productions will hold auditions for Seussical *the Musical* on Saturday, January 8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Mercer County Community College.

Performances of *Seussical* are slated for April 1-10 at the community college's Kelsey Theatre.

The cast includes roles for 25 adults, age 16 and up. Among the roles are the Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, Mayzie LaBird, and The Whos.

Auditioners are asked to prepare a song from musical theater, preferably not from the production, and to be prepared to dance. A photo and resume are also requested.

The show is directed by Paula Barson, with choreography by Pam Pisani and musical direction by James Capes and Charlene Angelini. The musical is written by Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens.

For more information or appointments, call (215) 943-0351 or (609) 882-9636.

Westminster Singers Plan Christmas Music Concert

The Westminster Community Chorus and Chamber Choir, conducted by Devin Marlman, will present *In Sweet Joy*, a concert of Christmas works, this Saturday, December 18, at 8 p.m. in Westminster Choir College's Bristol Chapel.

In addition to performing choruses from Handel's *Messioh*, the ensemble will perform a piece by one of the choir's own members, Deborah Kilmer. Christmas works by Marc-Antoine Charpentier, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and William Mathias will also be performed. The concert will conclude with carols for choir and audience.

Mr. Mariman is in his seventh season as conductor of the Westminster Community Chorus and in his fifth season as founding conductor of the Westminster Community Chamber Choir. He has conducted such major works as Handel's *Messioh*, Honegger's *King Dovid*, Heinrich Schütz's *Musikolische Exequien*, and Carl Orff's *Cormino Burono*. He is adjunct assistant professor of voice at Westminster Choir College, chorus master for the Westminster Conservatory's Children's Opera, and an instructor in the Westminster Conservatory Young Artist program.

The Westminster Conservatory Community Chorus is composed of singers from all walks of life who share a love of choral music. Since its inception in 1996 as part of Westminster Conservatory's choral program, the group has performed such major works as Poulenc's *Glorio*, Beethoven's *Moss in C*, Mozart's "Great" *Mass in C minor*, and Orff's Cormino *Burono*, among others.

Tickets are $15 for adults and $10 for senior citizens and students. To order, call the Westminster box office at (609) 921-2663 on weekdays between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

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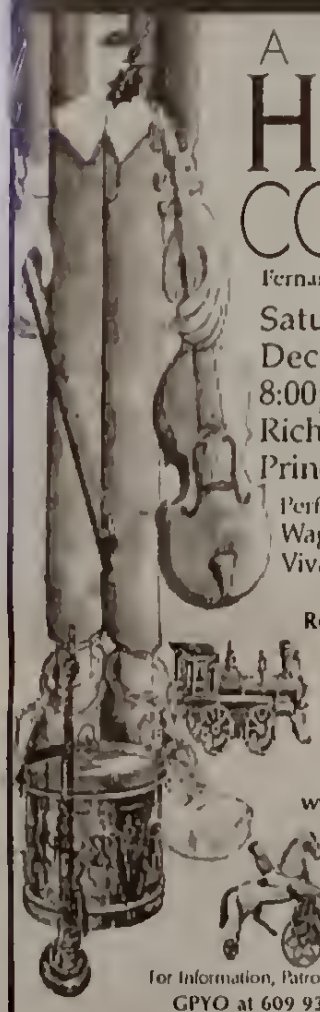

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CATHERINE AND CHARLIE: Starring in "The Foreigner," coming to MCCC's Kelsey Theatre for two weekends starting January 7, are Meredith McLeod as Catherine Simms and Doug Edelson in the lead role as Charlie Baker.

Kelsey Theatre Presents "The Foreigner" Comedy

Maurer Productions OnStage will present Larry Shue's award-winning comedy, The Foreigner, at Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre, starting Friday, January 7, for two consecutive weekends.

Maurer Productions OnStage is a new non-profit theatre group founded by long-time television, film and theatre director John Maurer and based at Kelsey Theatre.

The Foreigner, winner of a New York Obie and the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Off-Broadway Production, is a good-natured farce with equal parts humor and humanity. It features Charlie Baker, a socially phobic Englishman marooned by a friend in a Georgia fishing lodge.

Charlie cleverly avoids interaction with other guests by pretending to be a foreigner, who doesn't speak or understand English. But when the locals speak freely in front of him and reveal their many secrets, Charlie's ploy leads to hilarious and sometimes dangerous consequences.

Mr. Maurer has assembled a mix of both Kelsey Theatre regulars and newcomers in the cast of seven. Taking the lead as Charlie is Trenton resident Doug Edelson. Mr. Edelson was last seen at the Kelsey in *Eorly One Evening ot the Roinbow Bor ond Grill*.

Dan Spalluto of Hamilton assumes the role of Owen Musser, one of the show's heavies. Mr. Spalluto is a founding member of the theatre group Like 40 Productions.

Mark Violi of Hamilton Square plays the role of Staff Sergeant Froggy LeSeuer, the British demolitions expert and friend who maroons Charlie at the fishing lodge. Mr. Violi is an actor and aspiring playwright who wrote *Roebling: The Story of the Brooklyn Bridge*, which was read at Kelsey in August.

The fishing lodge's kindly owner, Betty Meeks, is played by Monroe Township resident Susan Schwirck. Ms. Meeks was last seen on the Kelsey Theatre stage as Mrs. Beckoff, the mother of all mothers in the Torch *Song Trilogy*.

Cast as the debutante Catherine Simms is recent Rider University graduate and Plainsboro resident Meredith McLeod. She has studied acting for several years and played principal roles in classics like *Medeo* and *The Tempest*, as well as roles in more contemporary shows like *Ploza Suite* and *Six Degrees of Seporotion*.

Playing Catherine's beau, Reverend David Marshall Lee, is David DiLiberto of Mercerville. And the youngest member of the cast is James Bryan of Pennington, who appears as Ellard, the dimwitted younger brother of debutante Catherine. Mr. Bryan has often performed in musical comedies and was last seen as Tackalberry in the Kelsey Theatre production of *How to Succeed in Business Without Reolly Trying*.

Maurer Productions OnStage (www.mponstage.com) aims to make the arts more accessible to central New Jersey residents by producing Broadway-quality productions at community theatre prices.

To order tickets, visit www.kelseyatmccc.org or call (609) 584-9444.

The theatre is located on Mercer's West Windsor Campus, 1200 Old Trenton Road. An opening night reception will be held following the January 7 performance.

CAST OF "THE FOREIGNER": From top row, left to right, are: Susan Schwirck as Betty Meeks, Dan Spalluto as Owen Musser, David DiLiberto as Rev. David Marshall Lee, Meredith McLeod as Catherine Simms, and Mark Violi as Froggy LeSeuer. Seated is: Doug Edelson as Charlie Baker; and in the front is James Bryan as Ellard.

Free Blues Program Set At Hopewell Coffeehouse

The Failte Coffeehouse in Hopewell will host a free afternoon of blues music with the Catfish Blues Band on Sunday, December 19 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. The band performs original tunes written in traditional Blues style along with music from the Mississippi Delta and Chicago.

Among the blues artists the band covers are Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, Mississippi Fred McDowell, and Jimmy Reed.

Catfish Blues Band members are John Wells on slide guitar and vocals, Paul Jellinek on piano and vocals, Pete Borg on harmonica and guitar, Jim Rigel on bass, and Dave Merritt on drums.

For more information, call (609) 466-6681.

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RUB THE MAGIC LAMP: Youth Stages presents a new touring production called, *Genies, Lamps and Dreams: Tales of the Arabian Nights* . The latest production of the arts-in-education group was written by Joey Madia and directed by Eloise Bruce, with set and costumes by Nancy Jean McBride.

Youth Stages Unveils New "Genies" Production

Princeton-based arts-in-education group, Youth Stages, will present a dress rehearsal performance of *Genies, Lamps and Dreams: Tales of the Arabian Nights* at Sand Hills Preschool in Monmouth Junction this month and opening performances at Cotsen Children's Library at Princeton University's Firestone Library.

The new, 40-minute touring production is set in 803 A.D. in the great room of the Sultan's palace in the Persian Empire in Baghdad.

The script includes Arabian Night tales of "The Genie and the Fisherwoman," "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp," "Sinbad the Sailor" and "Ali Baba and the Sticky Thieves."

Produced by Youth Stages and written by Joey Madia, the production was directed by Eloise Bruce, with set and costumes by Nancy Jean McBride.

Audience participation is an important part of the show, with audience members asked to assist as birds, frogs, bakers, and in other roles.

For more information, call (609) 430-9000, or visit www.youthstages .com.

Auditions Set for "Puss-in-Boots"

Pennington Players will hold auditions for The *Truly Remarkable Puss-in-Boots* on Saturday, January 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Sunday, January 9, from noon to 4 p.m. at Mercer County Community College.

Performance dates are April 14-17 at the community college's Kelsey Theatre.

Roles are available for adults, teens, and children ages 10 and up. Auditioners are asked to prepare a two-minute monologue. A photo and resume are requested.

Characters in *Puss-in-Boots* include the king; the princess; Ella, the palace maid; Jane, a confident, overbearing big sister type; Betty, a younger version of Jane; and Carl, a good-natured teen. Two other female characters are a hard-working peasant woman in her 20s or 30s, and an attractive but overworked farmer's wife in her 20s or 30s.

The college is located at 1200 Old Trenton Road in West Windsor. The audition location will be posted on the sign board at Kelsey.

For more information or appointments, call (609) 737-7529.

Arts Council Reprises Program of Comedy Films

The Arts Council of Princeton will hold its fourth annual "Classic Comedy Cavalcade," an afternoon of comedy film classics, on Wednesday, December 29, at 3 p.m. in its upstairs Loft Studio. The program presents classic short comedies in their original 16-mm format on a large screen, as they were originally intended to be seen.

The movies will include a mix of short films starring Charlie Chaplin and Laurel and Hardy, among others. Film historian and archivist Bruce Lawton will introduce each film and provide "behind the scenes" information about the movies and the artists. He will also take questions from the audience following the screening. The program will last 90 minutes.

Mr. Lawton fell in love with silent comedies as a child. A motion picture and video specialist who has produced and consulted on numerous documentaries and assisted in the restoration of Chaplin's *Gold Rush*, among other films, he now presents silent film series at festivals and in schools across the country. For the past five years he has co-hosted The *Silent · Clowns* film series at the New York Historical Society.

Admission to the program is $6 at the door ($5 for members), and includes popcorn. Children under five are free.

The Arts Council is located at 102 Witherspoon Street. Visitors are urged not to park along the residential Streets of the John-Witherspoon neighborhood. Convenient parking is available in the nearby Spring Street and Palmer Square parking decks.

CLASSIC COMICS: The comedy duo of Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy will be among the old film stars featured in the Arts Council of Princeton's fourth annual "Classic Comedy Cavalcade," on Wednesday, December 29, in the Council's Loft Studio. Admission to the program is $6 at the door and includes popcorn.

Theater School to Offer "A Superstar Christmas"

The inaugural Christmas show of the EnCorp, Inc., Theatre School will be performed on Wednesday, December 22 at 7 p.m. in the Villa Victoria Auditorium in Ewing.

The show has been titled *A Superstar Christmos* to reflect the presence in the cast of Barry Dennen, best known for playing the role of Pontius Pilate in the stage and film versions of *Jesus Christ Superstor*. Mr. Dennen will play a grandfather and an evil elf in the show.

The show, written by Newton Gilchrist, EnCorp's executive director, will be a fund-raiser for the Ewing-based Theatre School. The storyline is a family tale that involves stolen presents and the theme that Christmas is really about people loving each other. Presented in concert form, it will feature caroling by EnCorp students, ages 5 through 18, as well as professional cast members from Midnight Productions. Conductor Craig Barna will conduct a small orchestra for the show.

EnCorp students will also perform the show's dance numbers, under the direction of EnCorp teachers Chesare Hardy and Katherine Schwing.

The evening will begin with a prelude of classics by professional harpists Alison Simpson and Virginia Flanagan.

A Superstor Christmas is one in a series of fund-raisers planned by EnCorp, a non-profit organization dedicated to training youth in the choreography, dialogue, and vocal music of Broadway.

Tickets are $30, $25 and $15 and can be reserved by calling (215) 794-7407.

The Villa Victoria Auditorium is located at 376 West Upper Ferry Road, at Route 29, in Ewing.

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Backstage at McCarter: Bringing 'A Christmas Carol' to Life

While watching McCarter Theatre's annual production of *A Christmas Carol* may be a family tradition of holiday merriment for an audience member, the magic that goes into making the show each year takes more than a little ghostly fairy dust.

With 36 performers and 21 people working backstage, every movement, every word, every special effect has to be choreographed perfectly. From cueing scenery to fly on and off stage on strings, rails along the floor, or a push stick, to cueing special effects such as dry ice, fog, and strobe lights, there are many different aspects of the show that have to be timed exactly to keep the show going.

The person making sure it all runs smoothly is Cheryl Mintz, the production stage manager.

Ms. Mintz is in her fourteenth season at McCarter, and her tenth as the resident stage manager. She has managed over 45 McCarter productions.

This is McCarter's 24th production of *A Christmas Carol*, and the fifth year for which they've used this particular set for the show, said Ms. Mintz, adding that she has managed the production the last 11 years.

Thursday, December 9, was one of the debut shows for this year's cast, which was performing to a packed house of several school groups.

"The students coming to McCarter are thoroughly prepared ... We want the theater to be part of their lives," said Ms. Mintz, adding that along with a work packet sent out to teachers, cast members also go out to the schools before they come to the show and hold a workshop for them.

But because this show was taking place on a weekday, didn't the child actors need to be in school?

Children are notified during auditions of the handful of school days they must miss for productions, said Ms. Mintz.

"The local schools are used to this," she said, adding that everyone involved keeps track of the students and their homework to make sure they don't get behind; often their time-management skills improve.

"In my 11 years doing this, students have always come out more confident, self-assured, and with their grades up," she said.

The children in the show range in age from 5 to 13 years old. Each year they all must re-audition, even if they've been in several shows in the past. Only 13 children are selected from the approximate 140 who audition, said Ms. Mintz.

The children are always well-behaved with the older actors as well, she said: "You don't see any ugly cat fights among the children backstage."

Bringing It To Life

While casting and rehearsing take up a great deal of time for the actors, once the cast is put on stage in costume with all of the scenery, special effects, and lights, it takes two-and-a-half days to go through all the technical work and make sure every single part of the show runs the way it's supposed to.

Small details make the show come alive, said Ms. Mintz, mentioning intimate movements of light from the upstairs to the downstairs rooms of the set, and a small red light inside the stage stove to make it look as though a fire is burning.

Certain parts of the show create an element of mystery and surprise, as when the door handle on Scrooge's house speaks to him as the ghost of Jacob Marley, operated by a hand puppet, and a large, towering figure representing the ghost of Christmas Yet To Come glides on stage, operated by one person wearing a backpack with controls, and another whose sole purpose is to operate the hand movements.

Thursday, before the show started, Ms. Mintz's main objective was to let everyone in the cast and crew know that there was a problem with the machine that pulled the set for Scrooge and Marley's counting house off the stage. Hoping for the best, the cast would have to be prepared to deal with the kinks until someone came to fix it at 1 p.m., once the show was over.

"We do have a back-up plan, so that someone can just crank it if necessary," she said.

The machine, which was used in the Broadway show, Contoct, can normally pull two tons of scenery across the floor. While this particular piece of scenery was originally close to that weight, it had to be reworked because it was top-heavy, said Ms. Mintz.

Backstage

For Ms. Mintz, this year the routine has been slightly altered from the past. Eight months pregnant, she needed help from a backstage assistant climbing the steep, narrow staircase leading up to the production booth. After reaching the top she was out of breath, and called down to another backstage worker to bring her a fruit cup, as she was feeling light-headed from the climb.

"I'm kind of crashing a little bit. Can you bring me some food?" she asked.

But once the curtain opened and the lights went down, all outside distractions were gone. Ms. Mintz's number one focus was the show.

A small crisis was called to the attention of everyone offstage when Scrooge's mic stopped working. While he also has a back-up mic, it appeared that moisture had gotten inside it, causing it to malfunction, as well.

"Sometimes the actors sweat the mics out," said Ms. Mintz.

It was determined that one of the backstage workers would grab Scrooge as he came off stage to let him know about the problem.

"The most important thing is his safety," said Ms. Mintz.

Despite the many technicalities and back stage problems, no one in the audience could see anything but an outstanding performance. Laughter, cries of surprise, and large rounds of applause met this year's cast and crew of A Christmas Carol.

— Candace Braun

CUE THE LIGHTS: Cheryl Mintz, the production stage manager for McCarter Theatre's "A Christmas Carol," has managed the show for the past 11 years. Now eight months pregnant, she finds that running the show is slightly more difficult, but it still appears to be running just as smoothly as years past.

(Photo by George Vogel)

READY, MAKE UP!: Cheryl Mintz, the resident stage manager for "A Christmas Carol," speaks with the children before the show starts to make sure everyone knows where they need to be, and when. Over 100 children audition each year for the 13 parts in the show.

BEWARE OF THE FUTURE: This tall creature, operated by two people, is the ghost of Christmas Yet To Come. One person operates the controls through a backpack underneath, while another operates the hand movements. *(Photo by George Vogel)*

I AM YOUR PARTNER: Ebenezer Scrooge (played by David Cromwell) is told by his late business partner, Jacob Marley (played by Aloysius Gigl), that he will be visited by three ghosts on this Christmas Eve who will show him the error of his ways. "A Christmas Carol" will be performed at McCarter Theatre through December 24. *(Photo by George Vogel)*

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CINEMA REVIEW — *Spanglish*

Class and Cross-Cultural Collisions Abound in Malibu Melodrama

Flor (Paz Vega) wants a chance at a better life for herself and her daughter Cristina (Shelbie Bruce). So, they steal across the Mexican border and make their way to a Chicano barrio in Los Angeles. Since she is an illegal immigrant who speaks no English, Flor's employment opportunities are limited.

She ends up as a housekeeper for a dysfunctional couple; Deborah (Tea Leoni) and John Clasky (Adam Sandler). Deborah is a shrew and her hen-pecked husband is the head chef at a four-star restaurant.

THE BEGINNING OF A COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP: Deborah (Tea Leoni, center) introduces her husband John (Adam Sandler) to their new housekeeper Flor (Paz Vega), an illegal Mexican immigrant who has just arrived in Los Angeles.

The Claskys have two neurotic children. Teenage daughter Bernie (Sarah Steele) is concerned about her weight problem, due to the unrealistic demands of her mother. Younger brother Georgie (Ian Hyland) is an underachiever who has to be bribed by his father to get out of bed on school days. They live in a Bel Air mansion with Deborah's mother, Evelyn (Cloris Leachman), a washed-up jazz singer who soaks her regrets in alcohol.

Flor finds herself in this household unaware of the pitfalls of serving as a nanny for rich eccentrics. The job takes a toll on her relationship with her 12 year-old daughter. It is their mother-daughter dynamic that is at the heart of *Sponglish*, a taut, absorbing melodrama, despite its departures into sitcom style humor.

The picture was expertly crafted and directed by Academy Award-winner James L. Brooks whose screen credits include four Best Picture Oscar nominations for *Terms of Endearment*, *Jerry Maguire*, *As Good As It Gets*, and *Broadcast News*.

Spanglish deserves serious consideration because of its earnest exploration of tensions between different classes and cultures. Deborah, in contrast to Flor, has little respect for boundaries, expecting money to buy her anything, even the love of another woman's child.

It is easy to imagine the tensions which arise when she lavishes Cristina with attention and affection. The little girl's gushing "I think you're the most amazing white woman I've ever met," leaves Flor feeling threatened and Bernie neglected and rejected.

The plot thickens when the Claskys rent a summer home in Malibu and offer Flor a live-in position. A love triangle and further complications ensue on the way to a well-concealed resolution.

The film's effectiveness comes from Cristina's narration, which, in flashbacks, recounts her life story while applying for undergraduate admission to Princeton. Her message should resonate with audiences of any background, even though it reflects the thoughts of a young girl who is a poor, fatherless, Mexican immigrant.

The acting in *Spanglish* is superb, especially Ms. Leoni's portrayal of Deborah. Ms. Vega and Ms. Bruce deserve recognition for their performances.

Excellent (★★★★). Rated PG-13 for profanity and sexual content. In English and Spanish without subtitles. Running time: 128 minutes. Distributor: Sony Pictures.

—Kam Williams

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AT THE CINEMA

Being Julia (R for sexuality). Romance drama, set in London in the 1930s, features Annette Bening as an aging stage actress who, at the height of her career, takes refuge from a stale marriage in an illicit love affair with an ardent American admirer half her age.

Blade: Trinity (R for sex, profanity, and violence). The curtain comes down on this trilogy with Wesley Snipes reprising his title role as a vampire hunter. The final installment has him as the last hope who can save humanity from hordes of undead bloodsuckers. With Kris Kristofferson, Parker Posey, and Jessica Biel.

Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason (R for sex and expletives). Renée Zellweger reprises her title role, and Hugh Grant returns too. The sequel, set four weeks later, has Bridget fretting about her new beau's (Colin Firth) close working relationship with his leggy assistant (Jacinda Barrett).

Christmas with the Kranks (PG for language and sexually suggestive material). Tim Allen and Jamie Lee Curtis star in this Scrooge-themed comedy based on *Skipping Christmas*, a holiday novel by John Grisham about a couple whose plans to ignore the holidays are disrupted by the unexpected arrival of their daughter (Julie Gonzalo). Supporting cast includes Dan Aykroyd, Jake Busey, Cheech, and Tom Poston.

Closer (R for sexuality, nudity, and profanity). Oscar-winner Mike Nichols (*The Graduate*) directs this adaptation of the Patrick Marber play of the same name. Leading ladies Julia Roberts and Natalie Portman appear opposite Clive Owen and Jude Law in a bawdy relationship drama about the effect of chance, instant attraction, and casual betrayal on two couples.

Finding Neverland (PG for adult themes and mild epithets) Johnny Depp stars as Scottish playwright J.M. Barrie in this family drama which speculates about what might have been the inspiration behind *Peter Pan*, his revered children's classic. With Kate Winslet, Vanessa Redgrave, Dustin Hoffman, and Julie Christie.

The Flight of the Phaenix (PG-13 for profanity and violence). Remake of the 1965 film with Jimmy Stewart, Ernest Borgnine, Peter Finch, Richard Attenborough, and George Kennedy. This colorized update features Dennis Quaid as the captain of an ill-fated cargo plane which crashes in the Mongolian Desert where passengers and crew get on each other's nerves while trying to repair the damaged aircraft.

The Incredibles (PG for action violence). Disney animated, sci-fi adventure about a family of super-heroes, living secretly in suburbia under the witness protection program, who come out of seclusion to save the world from a super-villain bent on world domination. Voices of characters provided by Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson, Craig T. Nelson, and Jason Lee.

Kinsey (R for sex content). Laura Linney and Liam Neeson star in this look at the life of Alfred Kinsey, Harvard-educated academic whose pioneering research in human sexual behavior in the late Forties opened up a whole new field of study.

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (PG for mature themes, scary situations, and mild epithets). Jim Carrey narrates this adaptation of the popular children's book series as the greedy Count who adopts three orphaned distant relatives with the hope of stealing the kids' inheritance.

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou (R for sex, expletives, nudity, drug use, and violence). Call Bill Murray Steve in this madcap update of Moby Dick about a revenge-minded oceanographer who sets out on an expedition to hunt down the jaguar shark which killed his partner. Along for the ride in this comic adventure are Steve's estranged wife (Anjelica Huston), a journalist (Cate Blanchett), and an airline pilot (Owen Wilson) who might be his son.

The Motorcycle Diaries (R for profanity). Biopic based on the journals of Che Guevera, written in 1951-52, when the future leader of the Cuban Revolution was a carefree, 23 year-old medical student.

Natianal Treasure (PG for violence and scary images). Disney adventure starring Nicholas Cage as an archeologist in search of a treasure chest buried by Founding Fathers George Wahington, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson during the Revolutionary War. Includes Jon Voight, Harvey Keitel, and Christopher Plummer.

Ocean's Twelve (PG-13 for profanity). Original ensemble cast returns for sequel, expanding gang to accommodate the addition of Danny's (George Clooney) wife (Julia Roberts). This go-round, they decide to pull a trio of heists in Rome, Paris, and Amsterdam. Fresh faces include Catherine Zeta-Jones-Douglas, Bruce Willis, and Peter Fonda.

The Polar Express (G). Animated adaptation of *Jumanji* author Chris Van Allsburg's children's book about a boy who's belief in Santa Claus is rewarded by the arrival of a train to take him to the North Pole as proof. Tom Hanks stars, supplying the voice of a half-dozen characters including the boy, his father, the conductor, a hobo, Scrooge, and St. Nick.

Ray (PG-13 for sex and adult themes). Jamie Foxx disappears into the title role in this biopic based on the life of legendary blues singer Ray Charles. With Regina King, Terrence Howard, Kerry Washington, Larenz Tate, and Aunjanue Ellis.

Sideways (R for sex, expletives, and nudity). Road film with Paul Giamatti as a recently-divorced writer who embarks on a weekend exploration of the California wine country with a washed-up actor friend (Thomas Haden Church) to soak their woes while reflecting on their failed relationships.

Spanglish (PG-13 for sex and expletives). Academy Award-winner James L. Brooks (*Terms of Endearment*) directs this cross-cultural comedy about the effect of the arrival of an attractive, Mexican immigrant housekeeper (Paz Flor) on the family of a famous chef (Adam Sandler) and his insecure wife (Tea Leoni).

The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (PG for crude humor). This adaptation of the popular Nickelodeon cartoon has its super-absorbent, super-hero (Tom Kenny) abandon the safety of Bikini Bottom to retrieve the stolen crown of King Neptune. With voicework supplied by Alec Baldwin, Jeffrey Tambor, James Earl Jones, Scarlett Johansson, and David Hasselhoff.

—Kam Williams

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Phantom of the Opera (PG-13): Weds.-Thurs., 3, 6, 9

Sideways (R): Fri., 6:45, 9:15; Sat.-Sun., 1:15, 4, 6:45, 9:15; Mon.-Tues., 6:45, 9:15

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Closer (R): Fri.-Sat., 2, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45; Sun.-Tues., 2, 4:35, 7:10

House of Flying Daggers (PG-13): Fri.-Sat., 2:05, 4:25, 7, 9:40; Sun.-Tues., 2:05, 4:25, 7

Kinsey (R): Fri.-Sat., 2:10, 4:30, 7, 9:35; Sun.-Tues., 2:10, 4:30, 7

Motorcycle Diaries (R): Fri.-Sat., 2, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45; Sun.-Tues., 2, 4:35, 7:10

Sideways (R): Fri.-Sat., 2, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45; Sun.-Tues., 2, 4:35, 7:10

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Sun-Tues: 2:05, 4:25, 7:00 *(PG-13)*

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Sun-Tues: 2:00, 4:35, 7:10 *(R)*

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Fri-Sat: 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40,
Sun-Tues: 2:25, 4:50, 7:15 *(R)*

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Fri-Sat: 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45;
Sun-Tues: 2:00, 4:35, 7:10 *(R)*

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PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (PG-13) 2:21
Wed & Thurs, December 22 & 23: 3:00, 6:00, 9:00

FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) 1:41
Fri, December 17: 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
Sat & Sun, December 18 & 19: 12:45, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
Mon & Tues, December 20 & 21: 6:45, 9:15
Wed & Thurs, December 22 & 23: 4:30, 6:45, 9:15

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BOOKS

Princeton Library To Host 'Snow Day' of Activities

The weather outside might be frightful or delightful on Thursday, December 30, but on the third floor of Princeton Public Library, it will be Snow Day.

The day will put the spotlight on winter, with snow-related arts and crafts, science demonstrations, and beloved snow stories. During craft sessions at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., children will create snowmen and other snowy creatures using marshmallows, felt, cotton, and other every day materials.

Favorite snow stories for children ages 2 to 4 will be read at 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., with stories for 4 to 8-year-olds at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Throughout the day, children will be invited to design and cut their own snowflakes.

Bill Barnard, a Snow Day veteran, will give a demonstration using liquid nitrogen at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. The retired chemist will help children to discover how cold something really can become by demonstrating the effects of liquid nitrogen on soap suds, flowers, and even bananas.

For more information on library programs and services, call (609) 924-9529, or visit www.princetonlibrary.org.

Library to Host Pop Band, Bed Bug Eddie

The local pop band, Bedbug Eddie, will perform at the Princeton Public Library on Friday, December 17, at 7:30 p.m. Named after a character played by Burt Young in the film, *The Pope of Greenwich Village*, Bedbug Eddie is a five piece New Jersey-based rock-and-roll cover band. It was formed seven years ago when Pennington resident Jim Crawford placed an ad on the website, musicians.com.

Its members include rhythm guitarist Mr. Crawford, familiar to library patrons for his work as a technology assistant, along with Chris Hogan (bass), Brian Hogan (drums), Bill Riordan (vocals/guitar) and George Marinich (lead guitar). Bedbug Eddie covers more than 30 years worth of music, ranging from Bob Seger and Neil Young to Matchbox 20 and the Foo Fighters. The band recently performed at The Sticky Wicket in Trenton, and the Triumph Brewing Company in Princeton.

The band's performance is part of the library's Unquiet Fridays series. One Friday a month, the library stays open late for a cultural and personal enrichment event.

Mr. Crawford said the band was intrigued by the concept of Unquiet Fridays, and was anxious to appear at the library: "This is long overdue... I think the guys were surprised to hear that a rock band would actually be performing inside a library. It certainly isn't your parents' library anymore, that's for sure."

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BOOK REVIEW

Let It Grow: A Concept Album Disguised as a Book

The cover of *The Rose & the Briar: Death, Love and Liberty in the American Ballad*, edited by Sean Wilentz and Greil Marcus (Norton $26.95), presents the book in the guise of a long-playing record with a red label. In fact, there's an album you can listen to, with the same cover, on the companion CD (Columbia/Legacy $13.98).

Besides being historian-in-residence at Bob Dylan's official website, Sean Wilentz directs the Program in American Studies at Princeton and has written for the New York Review of Books, the New Republic, and the Village Voice. Best known as the author of *Mystery Train* and *Lipstick Traces*, Greil Marcus proved himself as an anthologist 35 years ago with *Rock and Roll Will Stand*, which celebrated the spirit and energy of rock without patronizing it.

There is also plenty of spirit and energy in this freewheeling collection, which is something like a literary version of a concept album. Strictly speaking, you would have to call it a compilation by "various artists," and compilations and concept albums are different organisms. Terminology aside, the book has so much to offer that the editors have added a sub-subtitle: *Doomed Lovers, Highway Shooters, A Nation Lost and Found.*

While anthologies are meant to be read around in, the opening essay by Dave Marsh should be read first because the book grows out of it, and "grow" is one of the operative words in a collection titled after the image of the rose and briar growing out of the hearts of William and Barbara in the concluding lines of "Barbara Allen" — "the most widespread folk song in the English language," according to Marsh. It's clear from the preface, and what the editors say in a Salon interview, that the book grew in all sorts of exciting and unexpected ways when they cast the seed of the subject before a widely varied group of potential contributors, who were told to choose a ballad and "run with it." According to the volume's preface, the writers responded with "dogged historical research, fiction, radical fantasy, memoir, comic strip, cartooning, poetry, and critical freebooting" and, in effect, "sang their hearts out." Like I said, this is a concept album disguised as a book.

What makes the title even more fitting is the nature of the subject. One of the most significant features of ballads before the copyrighted 20th-century ones by Bob Dylan, Randy Newman, and Bruce Springsteen, among others discussed here, is the way the words and stories grow as they pass from singer to singer and generation to generation. In some versions of "Barbara Allen," for example, she has a motive for her cold-heartedness, having once been slighted by the young man dying for love of her. But as the song has passed through different interpreters over the years, some variations have dispensed with the motive. Whatever the changes, the most enduring image is the concluding one, the rose growing out of William's heart, the briar out of Barbara Allen's, growing and growing until they wind together in a true lovers' knot.

Dave Marsh winds the old and new ballads together with a quote from Bob Dylan, who once said that "without 'Barbara Allen' there'd be no 'Girl From the North Country.'" He might have said the same of his later ballad "Lily, Rosemary, and the Jack of Hearts," which he sings on the CD and which Wendy Lesser discusses here in "Dancing with Dylan." This elaborately plotted song was one she used to play while dancing around the living room with her infant son in her arms. Quite a few of us did the same thing at bedtime during the same time period, wondering, as she does, how deeply the music we played would sink into our child's subconscious. Such an idea has real resonance when you consider how music from any period, heard at any age, sinks not only into the individual's subconscious but into the nation's. In the context of the sub-subtitle's reference to a nation lost and found, it's the music that found the nation and is still finding it, moving us, as Dylan still moves Wendy Lesser, "irrationally — if being moved by a song can ever be said to be rational."

Howard Hampton's approach to "Nebraska," the Springsteen ballad about Charlie Starkweather's killing spree, is reminiscent of something Greil Marcus was writing about in the late sixties when he spoke of responses to rock in terms of a "secret language" and an "effortless metaphorical consciousness" and the "imperfect knowledge that is perfect understanding." Instead of submitting himself to a search for a message, Hampton lifts the song into another realm with a stunning, dead-on medley of related American themes haunting the culture, from Jerry Lee Lewis to Flannery O'Connor to Robert Frank.

Essays like those by Hampton and Rennie Sparks reflect the concept of the book they're embedded in, anthologies within an anthology, and the same could be said of "Destiny in My Right Hand," where David Thomas, founder of the avant rock band Pere Ubu, riffs on "The Wreck of Old '97" and Jan and Dean's "Dead Man's Curve." Among other things, Thomas calls Edison the father of Elvis, cites the Venerable Bede in relation to William Faulkner, and tells us "the automobile is as compelling a philosophical model as Plato's Cave." By the time you get to the page-and-a-half-long sentence he drives home on, you begin to feel your sleeve being tugged by the spectres of word-drunk rock-scholar-gypsy virtuosos Richard Meltzer and Lester Bangs, not to mention Jack Kerouac and his gift to American myth, Dean Moriarity.

In the Salon interview, Sean Wilentz says "we have to become complicit in the ballad. That's one of the things the ballad demands. We have to be part of what is going on. We have to be active listeners." This is what happens in *The Rose & the Briar* when novelist Joyce Carol Oates and singer/songwriter Anna Domino themselves become narrative characters in their respective ballads (Domino does Oates one better by doing a brilliant rendition of "Little Maggie" on the companion CD); and it happens when poet Paul Muldoon writes a ballad of his own (performed on the CD by the Handsome Family); when R. Crumb draws a comic strip version of "When You Go a Courtin'" and submits his own cranky, reactionary take on the fate of the ballad; when Stanley Crouch and Eric Weisbard focus on the emotional/visceral impact of singers like Mahalia Jackson and Dolly Parton; or when John Rockwell writes about Burl Ives singing "The Foggy, Foggy Dew." Essays so intent on communicating the glory of specific music make a CD version of the anthology an absolute necessity. You will want to hear the performances described, and you won't be disappointed. If, for example, you think of Burl Ives as a fat character actor singing "Jimmy Crack Corn" on albums for kids, you'll find his chillingly beautiful rendition of "The Foggy, Foggy Dew" a revelation.

The Rose & the Briar has more to offer than a mere review can suggest. The section on "Notes, Books & Recordings" is a treat in itself, with each contributor offering biblio/discographies and then some, particularly Anna Domino, Sean Wilentz, Rennie Sparks of the Handsome Family, and Jon Langford of the Mekons. Illustrations precede each chapter, and Langford's contribution is a series of illustrations sprinkled with grafittilike commentary accompanying his own "See Willy Fly By," which grew out of "The Cuckoo," which grew out of "Jack 'o Diamond," which has roots that go back a thousand years, according to Greil Marcus's notes.

I haven't even mentioned novelist Cecil Brown's fascinating story behind the real-life tale of Frankie (of "Frankie and Johnny," which grew out of "Frankie and Albert"), or Luc Sante's atmospheric picture of the real-life ballad of Buddy Bolden, wherein he cites Jelly Roll Morton, "the Ancient Mariner of New Orleans Jazz," who sings, talks and plays "I Thought I Heard Buddy Bolden Say" on the CD.

Toward the end of Dave Marsh's essay on "Barbara Allen," he asks a series of questions, the last of which is "What is it that roses and briars have in common?" At first glance, this seems dangerously close to one of those inane, mind-numbing study questions in a college reader. But it gives Marsh an excuse to tell us "The answer is not blowing in the wind. The answer is that we will never find the answer, and never stop seeking it. And so we sing the song."

—Stuart Mitchner

Professor's Liner Notes Win Grammy Nomination

The Recording Academy has nominated Princeton University history professor and American studies program director Sean Wilentz for a Best Album Notes Grammy Award.

Prof. Wilentz, who is also historian-in-residence for bobdylan.com, wrote an essay for the 52-page booklet packaged with *Live 1964: Concert at Philharmonic Hall*, the sixth album in Bob Dylan's "Bootleg Series." He was also in attendance at the concert in question. According to a University press release, he said that he had tried to balance his personal memories of the concert with the historical and political contexts in which it occurred.

Prof. Wilentz co-edited with Greil Marcus the recently published anthology, *The Rose & the Briar*, reviewed in this issue. The author of *Chants Democratic: New York City & The Rise of the American Working Class*, he has been a contributing editor at The New Republic since 1994

Although award categories such as album notes are usually omitted from the Grammy television broadcast, all nominees are invited to the February 13, 2005, ceremony.

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PROSPECTS FOR LOW VISION
According to Prevent Blindness America, age-related macular degeneration (ARMD) is the most common cause among newly diagnosed cases of visual impairment of Americans over age 65. This eye disorder can be thought of as the aging of the outermost layer of the retina. By age 75, the National Advisory Eye Council reports that more than a third of the population is suffering from ARMD. Even by age 40, 15% of Americans show some signs of the disease. It is also reported that, as the population ages, more elderly individuals will become legally blind as a result of ARMD than from diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma combined. In the meantime, low vision devices can make the most of remaining vision.
Macular degeneration is the leading cause of impaired reading or detailed vision. People who suffer from this disease are able to compensate for much of their vision loss through the use of low vision aids. Many magnifying devices, such as spectacles and hand or stand magnifiers, are two options. At MONTGOMERY EYE CARE, we help people enjoy the best vision possible so that they can continue their regular activities and enjoy comfortable lives. We feature a wide selection of low vision aids. Call us at 609-279-0005, or visit us at Montgomery Center at 1325 Route 206. Office hours are Mon, Tues, Thurs 10-8; Wed 10-7; Fri 10-6, and Sat 9-3. Best wishes for a happy holiday season!
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Sports

Wallace Finds His Offensive Rhythm To Spark Streaking Tiger Men's Hoops

Last December, Judson Wallace had an afternoon to forget as the Princeton University men's basketball team fell by a bucket at Rutgers.

Wallace struggled mightily that day, hitting 1-of-8 shots on the way to a measly five-point performance which earned him the jeers of the Scarlet Knight fans.

As the two teams renewed their storied rivalry last Wednesday at Jadwin Gym for Princeton's home opener under new head coach Joe Scott, Wallace was determined to make amends for his awful effort.

"Last year I was playing pretty well offensively and then we came into Rutgers and I put up a horrible game," recalled Wallace. "This year, I wanted to get it back. That wasn't me that the fans saw last year."

Wallace made this season's clash a night to remember as he scored a game-high 18 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead Princeton to a 53-40 win before a Jadwin crowd of 5,135.

The Tigers needed Wallace's heroics as they trailed 23-20 at the half and were behind 33-31 with 11 minutes remaining in regulation.

During those last 11 minutes, Wallace took over the contest as he contributed nine points, seven rebounds, a blocked shot, and an assist to spur a decisive 22-7 Tiger run that broke Rutgers' spirit and its five-game winning streak in the series between the local rivals.

In reflecting on his outburst which saw him go 3-for-7 from three-point range, Wallace said he wasn't focused on scoring coming into the game.

"I told Scotty Greenman before the game to look for me running," said the 6'10 Wallace, who followed his stellar effort against Rutgers by scoring a season-high 23 points and hitting a school-record 13-of-13 free throws in Princeton's 56-52 win at Monmouth last Sunday. "I was just going to rebound and run. The three-pointers just came to me. I was open on all of them."

In Wallace's view, spending much of the second half on the court with twin tower Mike Stephens helped open things up for him.

"We were outrebounding them when both of us were in there," explained the Atlanta native who was a first-team All-Ivy selection last season and is currently leading the Tigers with a 13.3 scoring average.

"You don't see two 6'10 guys on the court at the same time. We're both pretty skilled and capable. When he's on the floor, that gives me the opportunity to run in there instead of being bodied up with those big center guys. Mike and I love playing together."

Scott loved what he saw as Wallace and his teammates made his home debut as the Tiger head coach an evening to remember.

"To me, they're all special," said Scott in reflecting on the night. "In college basketball, you don't see rivalries like this any more. It's all conference stuff. These are two teams that have proud histories who think it's important to play each other at each other's court every other year."

Scott was proud of how his team performed down the stretch. "It's a good win because we hadn't beaten Rutgers the last five times we had played them which hasn't happened in this series," explained Scott, whose club outrebounded Rutgers 33-30 and committed only eight turnovers while forcing 12.

DEADEYE: Princeton senior star Judson Wallace tallies two of his game-high 18 points in the Tigers' 53-40 win over Rutgers last Wednesday at Jadwin Gym. Wallace followed that effort with a season-high 23-point performance in Princeton's 56-52 win at Monmouth last Sunday. The 6'10 Wallace set a school-record in that game as he hit on 13-of-13 free throws. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

"All I talked about at half was confidence and aggressiveness, both offensively and defensively. I said to them going out at half that Rutgers is shooting 50 percent against us, how is that? Obviously we did a very good job of that in the second half because we held them to 20 percent (4-of-20)."

In Scott's view, Wallace did a very good job as well. "I think Judson played really well tonight right from the start," said Scott, who was particularly pleased with the fact that Wallace had only one turnover on the evening.

"He was all over the place. He's getting what I'm trying to emphasize to him — don't turn it over, and get rebounds. If you don't turn it over and you get rebounds, you are doing well no matter what else you are doing."

With Princeton at 5-2 and riding a 4-game winning streak, Scott believes his team is collectively getting his approach.

"It's been hard for the older guys learning all the new stuff," said Scott, whose club faces a stern test when it plays at Temple on December 20.

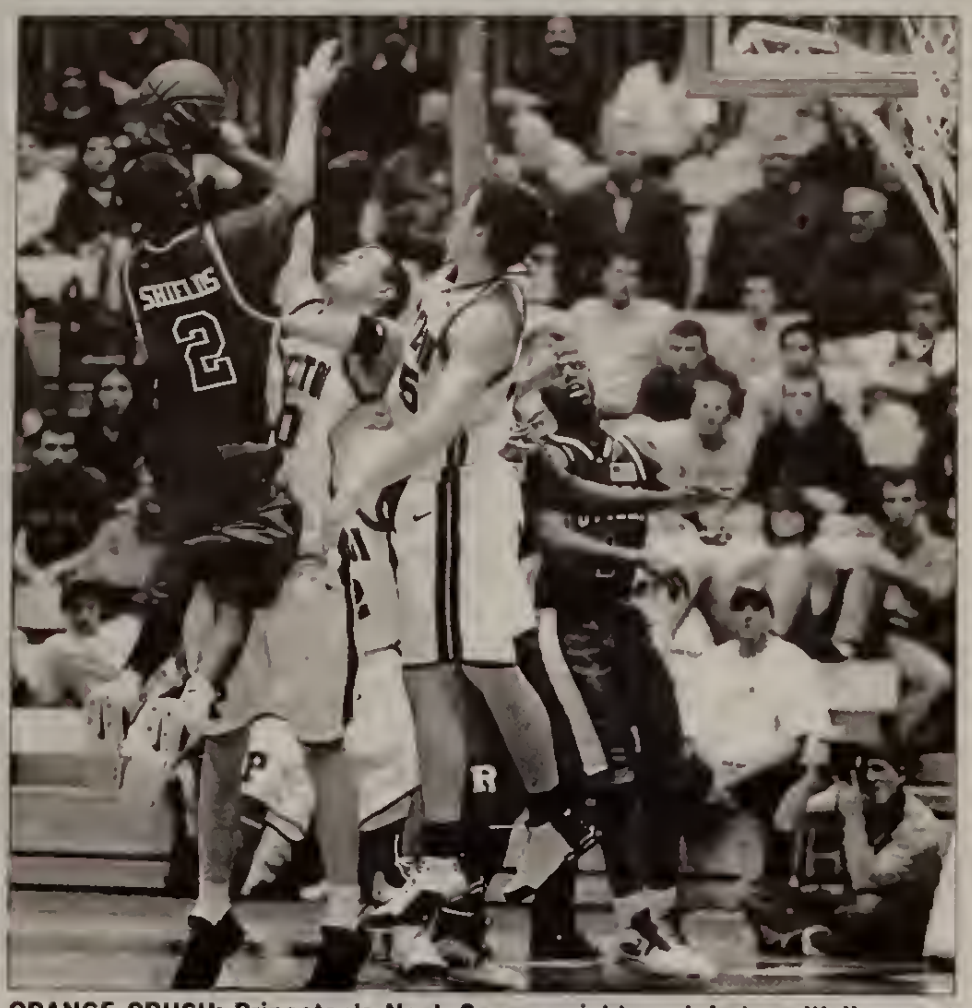
"Maybe we have learned how to pull away from a team. I think our defense did it, we kept stopping them and stopping them. You don't turn the ball over and you get defensive rebounds; you are going to win a lot of games."

In Wallace's view, the win over Rutgers could have long term implications. "Absolutely," replied Wallace without hesitation when asked whether the win gave Princeton a shot of confidence.

"Especially the way we finished the game. We have to concentrate on finishing games. It was 38-36 and we went on a 15-4 run, that will definitely help us."

If Wallace can keep in his offensive groove, the Tigers should produce a lot of strong finishes over the next few months.

—Bill Alden



ORANGE CRUSH: Princeton's Noah Savage, right, and Judson Wallace put the defensive pressure on Rutgers' Ricky Shields in Princeton's 53-40 win over the Scarlet Knights. The Tigers held Rutgers to 17 points in the second half on 4-of-20 shooting. Princeton, which improved to 5-2 with its 56-52 win over Monmouth last Sunday, brings a four-game winning streak into its game at Temple on December 20. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

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Tiger Men's Water Polo Made Waves As It Fought Valiantly at Final Four

In 2003, the Princeton University men's water polo team ended its season in bitterly disappointing fashion as it fell to Navy in the title game of the Eastern Championships.

The setback was particularly crushing since the Tigers had beaten the Midshipmen in their three prior meetings that fall.

Using that disappointment as motivation, Princeton went one step further this season as it won the Easterns, thereby qualifying for the NCAA Final Four and making the program's first national tournament appearance since 1992.

While the Tigers ended 2004 with a 7-5 overtime loss to UCLA in the national semi-finals and to a 6-5 defeat to Loyola Marymount in the third-place game, there was a sense of accomplishment rather than frustration at season's end.

In the game against UCLA, which went on to win the national title, Princeton battled the heavily-favored Bruins on even terms throughout the contest. A late goal by Tiger star John Stover forced overtime and the teams remained deadlocked through most of the first overtime. Ultimately, the Bruins' depth proved to be too much as they outlasted gritty Princeton.

In reflecting on Princeton's near-miss against UCLA, Princeton head coach Luis Nicolao asserted that his team struck a blow for the quality of Eastern water polo which is seen as a poor cousin to the brand of competition played by the sport's California powers.

"It was definitely a statement game," said Nicolao, whose team nearly became the first eastern college to advance to the NCAA title game. "We did a lot for ourselves and for water polo on the east coast. I had people coming up to me all day on Sunday congratulating me on how we had played."

In Nicolao's view, it was his team's stout defense that put the Bruins on their heels. "We continued the defensive effort we have been showing in the last part of the season," explained Nicolao, whose team finished with a 25-6 mark, thereby surpassing the program record for most wins in a season by one.

"When you come into a game against a quality opponent like UCLA, you hope that they are a little off and that you are playing your A-game. It was an unbelievable game for us."

For Nicolao, the team's focus this fall on its goals was unbelievable. "We played as a team, all 24 guys contributed," asserted Nicolao, a water polo star at Navy in his college days in the early 1990s who has been guiding the Princeton men's and women's water polo programs for seven years.

"The team's defensive effort was great, it reflected how the players came together. We were so disappointed after losing to Navy last year in the Easterns. We knew as a group that we could do it in the Easterns. We played the whole season shooting for November. We played a great game in beating St. Francis in the Eastern final."

While Princeton's success was a total team effort, senior goalie Peter Sabbatini and junior driver Stover stood out as pivotal figures.

Sabbatini, a third-team All American in 2003, was the MVP of this year's Easterns and was named as a first team All-Southern performer. He came into the Final Four with a 15-4 record and 186 saves. Stover, an honorable mention All-American selection last year, was named as the Southern Player of the Year. He ended the season leading the Tigers with 72 goals.

Nicolao acknowledged that Sabbatini and Stover made special contributions to the team's success. "You get a Peter once every 10 years," asserted Nicolao, who was named as the Dick Russell Coach of the Year.

"He was the anchor of our defense. He was a pleasure to coach. You knew that on days when the defense was a little off, you could depend on him to make the big saves. John was just great. He was one of the guys the other team was always looking to stop but he still got two-three goals a game."

Nicolao is hoping that the program's Final Four experience will make Princeton even tougher to stop next year. "It was great to have a taste at that level," said Nicolao, who loses only four seniors and will be welcoming back such stars as Stover, Nicholas Seaver, Reid Joseph, Jamal Motlagh, and Dean Riskas. "It typifies what we are shooting for. We want to try to get back. I'm excited about next year's team."

No matter what happens in the future, Nicolao won't soon forget how his team concluded the 2004 campaign. "I was happy to see the satisfaction the guys got from being there and doing well," said Nicolao. "We hadn't been there for 13 years and it was great to get there. The experience of the Final Four was overwhelming. I can't stop smiling."

—Bill Alden

MAKING A POINT: Princeton University men's water polo coach Luis Nicolao directs his charges in action earlier this fall. Under Nicolao's guidance, the Tigers produced a stellar season as they went 25-6 to set a team-record for wins and made it to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1992. In the NCAA Final Four, the Tigers pushed eventual national champion UCLA to overtime before succumbing 7-5. (Photo by Bill Alden/NJ SportsAction)

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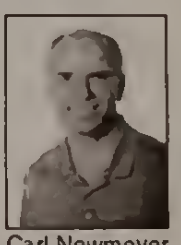

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The law wields an exquisitely powerful and painfully blunt instrument in resolving human conflict. It is a good idea to know about the "collateral damage" that can crop up in a lawsuit.

The structure of the civil legal process in this country rests upon a logic that is simple but often misunderstood or at least is very difficult for some clients to fully grasp and accept. If a person sues because s/he was injured in an accident, that person must prove that some other person or thing was at fault, i.e., responsible for the injury. The litigant also must prove that s/he has been injured or damaged as a direct result or as a foreseeable consequence of the fault. Finally, the litigant must prove the extent and duration of the injuries.

The rigors of proving a personal injury case place considerable stress and strain on the injured person. In building a case, time is broadly separated into the period before and the period after the injury. Defendants cannot be held responsible for problems that pre-existed an accident. They are entitled to thoroughly investigate the circumstances in order to establish the status of the alleged injury prior to an accident. An example would be this: your new car, parked in a public lot, is dented on the driver's door. The next day, while driving, you are broadsided on the driver's side by another car and an area just aft of the prior dent is damaged. It occurs to you that you could fold together the prior dent and the later damage and have both repaired under the same deductible amount. The defendant's insurer wants to properly apply the deductibility rules and has the right to investigate to determine when and under what circumstances the dents occurred. When this kind of investigation delves into someone's very personal affairs, that person becomes defensive and indignant, e.g., "what right do they have to know this? It has nothing to do with my injuries." In this case, an experienced attorney will be able to narrow the scope of such intrusions but not by very much.

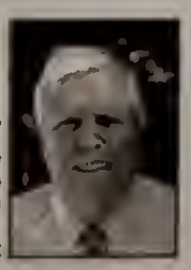
This investigation process, termed "discovery," is a cornerstone of our civil legal system. The entire discovery process applies the standard of finding facts and of telling the truth, at least the version of the facts and the truth that a person has. From time to time, one hears that people frequently lie in law suits. While this may be true, it overlooks two facts: first, many people are morally and ethically averse to lying, and second, many people are not convincing, consistent or comfortable liars.

The discovery process requires both sides to answer to written questions (interrogatories) and to produce all manner of records, documents, pictures, x-rays, physical things and the like. The parties build their cases by poring over these answers, things and documents. Next, different individuals are called to answer under oath questions posed by opposing attorneys in face to face meetings called "depositions." A judge is not present at depositions but the entire proceeding is recorded by a court stenographer and a transcript is produced.

The discovery process may be is used as a weapon to intimidate and discourage the other side. For example, discovery may be used to show the other side the strengths of the defendant's case or the weaknesses of the plaintiff's case. By helping the litigants to properly calibrate the strength and value of their claims, this use of discovery is legitimate and saves time, money and effort on both sides. However, the discovery process also may be used to embarrass or harass a litigant. For example, where a plaintiff complains of being harmed as a result of being sexually abused by a doctor, the defendant is entitled to establish the plaintiff's mental and emotional condition prior to the alleged abuse and to establish that the plaintiff's status was poor before the alleged abuse. This investigation is almost always painful and embarrassing for the plaintiff.

The measure of damages in a personal injury suit is the increment of harm that accrues to a person over and above or in interaction with the prior condition. Hence, defendants will always try to limit their liability by establishing that the plaintiff was in bad shape before the complained of incident. Another common defense tactic is to show that the injured party contributed to his own injury. Such contribution is then subtracted from the overall injury. These tactics can be used as a shield to protect the defendant and as a sword to coerce and intimidate plaintiffs by forcing disclosure of very intimate details of their lives thereby instigating feelings of shame, guilt, pangs of conscience and self- reproach.

The next article in this series will discuss ways attorneys protect clients from collateral damage in personal injury law suits.



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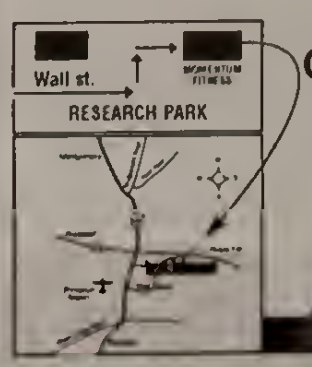

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STICKING POINT: Princeton senior co-captain Becky Stewart, right, battles for the puck in recent action. Helped by Stewart's leadership, the Tigers have gone 5-0-1 to improve to 9-4-2 heading into the holiday break. Princeton, which rallied to beat Boston College 3-2 last Sunday, is next in action when plays at New Hampshire on January 1. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

Tiger Women's Hockey On a Roll; Goes 5-0-1 Before Holiday Break

Even though the Princeton University women's ice hockey team found itself trailing Boston College by two goals going into the third period last Sunday, Tiger head coach Jeff Kampersal wasn't worried.

"They were all over us in the first period," recalled Kampersal. "They hadn't played the day before so they were fresher. In the second period, we had so many chances. We had three or four breakaways but their goalie (Alllison Quandt) made all the saves. Between periods, I told them to continue what we were doing. We decided to break the third period down to four 5-minute segments."

The Tigers broke through in that first 5-minute segment as Chrissie Norwich scored 3:49 into the period. Seven minutes later, sophomore star Kim Pearce found the back of the net to tie the game at 2-2. The game went into overtime and Princeton capped its rally as Pearce fired in the game-winner with just 11 seconds remaining in the extra session.

Kampersal acknowledged that Norwich's score was pivotal. "Chrissie scored early and that was huge," said Kampersal, whose team improved to 9-4-2 on the season with the win over the Eagles. "If we hadn't scored that early, we may not have come back."

The contribution of Pearce also played a major role in the Tigers' comeback. "Kim was good all weekend," said Kampersal of Pearce, who has a team-high 10 goals so far this season. "She goes hard all of the time; she is so hungry."

The Tigers showed a hunger to score Saturday when they tallied a season-high six goals in their 6-2 win over Northeastern. "We started off strong against Northeastern," said Kampersal, whose club jumped out to a 2-0 first period lead against the Huskies.

———

"We were lulled into sleep in the second period. In the third, we got three goals on a five-minute major penalty and that broke it open. Our power play was much better this weekend than it's been."

One constant for Princeton has been the play of sophomore Liz Keady, who registered her first career hat trick in the victory over Northeastern.

"Liz always plays great," said Kampersal of the Braintree, Mass. native who is second in the team in total points with 14 on six goals and eight assists. "She is so fast; she is such a determined player. Liz works so hard at improving. We haven't had anyone in the program who has worked any harder than Liz. She has been playing with the U.S. national team and it has really helped to be around players like that."

With his team riding a six-game unbeaten streak, having gone 5-0-1 since losing to Yale on November 24, Kampersal believes that team chemistry has been a vital ingredient in his team's hot streak.

"As a group, I feel like they are really close," said Kampersal, a 1992 Princeton grad who is in his ninth season guiding the Tiger women's program. "They do a lot of things together off the ice. That helps them when they get under pressure because they can be hard on each other without taking things personally."

Kampersal is hoping that his club's camaraderie will help it build on its momentum when it returns to action after the upcoming holiday break.

"We've been good at our five-on-five play," said Kampersal, whose team is next in action when it plays at New Hampshire on January 1. "We've had trouble scoring goals, we'd been averaging less than two goals a game coming into this weekend. Our defense has been solid. Roxy [Gaudiel] has been there for us in the goal. I just think that we could've finished better in a couple of our games."

—Bill Alden

SAVING GRACE: Princeton University women's hockey goalie Roxanne Gaudiel prepares to make a save in a game earlier this season. Gaudiel has posted a sparkling 1.58 goals against average to help Princeton go 9-4-2 as it heads into its holiday break. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

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Tiger Women's Soccer Earns More Accolades

In the wake of putting together the greatest season in program history, the Princeton women's soccer team is receiving national and regional accolades.

Last week, senior striker Esmeralda Negron, the two-time Ivy League Player of the year, was named as an Adidas/NSCAA first-team All-American along with freshman teammate, Diana Matheson, the Ivy League Rookie of the Year.

Negron set a Princeton single-season record with 20 goals, 12 assists, and 52 points. She will graduate as Princeton's career leader in goals (47) and points (111). Matheson, for her part, scored seven goals and had seven assists in emerging as the Tigers' key playmaker in the midfield.

Princeton head coach Julie Shackford, who led Princeton to a 19-3 mark and the first NCAA Final Four appearance ever for an Ivy women's soccer team, was named Mid-Atlantic Regional Coach of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

Shackford joins the other five regional winners as finalists for the national coach of the year award, which will be announced in early January. Shackford is the only female coach among the six finalists.

In addition, Princeton finished 2004 ranked fourth in the final NSCAA poll. Notre Dame, the NCAA champion, was ranked first, followed by UCLA, Santa Clara, Princeton, and North Carolina.

"We at Princeton are delighted by the recognition that Julie has received," said Princeton Director of Athletics Gary Walters. "As testimony to her abilities, she is as good a coach off the soccer field as she is on it. She and her team had an extraordinary season."

The 2004 Princeton women's soccer team became the first Ivy League team in any sport to reach the Final Four of a 64-team NCAA tournament.

Princeton outscored its opponents 58-11 for the season, including 24-3 while going a perfect 7-0-0 in the Ivy League. No Ivy school has ever scored more goals in a league season.

As for the players, Negron and Matheson were also named first-team All-Mid-Atlantic Region selections. In all, Princeton had four first-team All-Ivy selections, seven All-Ivy selections, two Academic All-Ivy selections and two District Academic All-Americas.

Princeton outscored its opponents 58-11 for the season, including 24-3 while going a perfect 7-0-0 in the Ivy League. No Ivy school has ever scored more goals in a league season.

Shackford reached the 100-win mark at Princeton in the second game of the season, becoming the fifth coach in league history — and first woman — to reach 100 wins at an Ivy school. She is also the second-fastest coach in league history to reach 100 wins and ended the season with a 117-52-10 record in 10 seasons at Princeton.

Princeton Wrestlers Split With Dakota Teams

Rallying from an 11-0 deficit, the Princeton University wrestling team topped Northern University 27-14 last weekend in a meet held in Brookings, S.D.

Individual winners for Princeton included Andrew Iannuzzi at 149 pounds, Alex Enriquez (157 pounds), Charlie Wiggins (165 pounds), Matthew DeNichilo (174 pounds), and Jake Butler (197 pounds).

The Tigers followed that win by dropping a tough 18-15 decision to South Dakota State. Despite splitting the 10 matches, Princeton fell because of bonus points won in the night's second match.

Individual victors for Princeton included Kristopher Berr in the heavyweight class, Eric Marcotulli (141 pounds), DeNichilo (174 pounds), Jack Fleming (184 pounds), and Butler (197 pounds).

The Tigers will compete in the Beast of the East Tournament on December 17 in Wilmington, Del.

Tiger Men's Hockey Swept by Merrimack

Fighting back from an early 2-0 deficit, the Princeton University men's ice hockey team couldn't hold off Merrimack as it dropped a 4-2 decision to the Warriors last Saturday in North Andover, Mass.

The Tigers started the second period trailing 2-0 but evened the score on goals by Darren Powe and Patrick Neundorfer. Merrimack, though, broke the tie with a goal late in the second period and held on for a 4-2 win.

In the first game of the weekend series between the teams, Princeton dropped a 4-3 heartbreaker last Friday as it lost on a goal scored with 10 seconds remaining in regulation. The Tigers' goals were scored by Ian McNally, Dustin Sproat, and Grant Goeckner-Zoeller.

Princeton, now 4-9-1 overall, is idle until it plays at Massachusetts on December 29.

KNIGHT MOVE: Princeton University sophomore guard Elyse Umeda flies through the lane in Princeton's 68-46 loss to nationally-ranked Rutgers last Wednesday in Piscataway. Umeda scored 10 points in the second half but it was not enough as the Tigers couldn't recover from a 33-20 halftime deficit to the Scarlet Knights. The Tigers, now 2-4, have home games against New Orleans on December 18 and Mount St. Mary's on December 20.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

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High-Scoring PHS Girls' Hockey Taking Its Game to a New Level

Two winters ago, the Princeton High girls' ice hockey team, developed a stingy defense to help transform the fledgling program into a winner.

With an infusion of offensive punch this season, it appears that the Little Tigers are poised to become a juggernaut. PHS has jumped out to a 3-1-1 start, scoring 27 goals in the process.

After the Little Tigers routed Stuart 10-0 last Friday at Baker Rink, PHS head coach Matt Becan smiled broadly as he assessed his team's attack.

"We have a very strong offense this year," said Becan, whose team went on to beat Summit 5-2 on Saturday before losing 4-0 to Hill on Sunday with a depleted lineup due to injury. "We've got some very talented players this year."

PHS is getting particularly strong production up front from senior Vicki Chen and freshman Blair Thompson. Chen had two goals and three assists in the win over Stuart while Thompson had a hat trick together with three assists.

"Vicki is at the top of her game," said Becan, who did lose sophomore star forward Dee Dee Mahon indefinitely to a broken wrist suffered in the win over Summit.

"We were blessed to get Blair. She's a freshman who came to us from Minnesota. She's outstanding, she's got tremendous skills. She's a huge help to our team; she is really going to solidify our scoring."

Becan is also getting a valuable offensive contribution from skilled defender Cami Mahon. "Cami is playing unbelievably this year," said Becan, who is also getting production from Suzanne Hudis, Julia Wilson, Blathnald Mahon, and Carly Ray. "We're trying to get her to step into the play and score some goals."

While the Little Tiger offense is clearly revved up this season, the team's defense is still formidable. "I think defensively we've been pretty good as well," asserted Becan, who has been using both Emily Schulte and Stacy Weingarten in goal.

"We haven't had a lot of defensive battles yet. Our defense is learning to correct mistakes, they are very disciplined. The great thing is that we are using four or five defensemen. We have Cami, Kristen Naylor, Melissa Diamond, and Rebecca Katz as well as Katie Burke."

In fact, one of the team's chief attributes is its overall depth. "We're so deep as far as the number of players," explained Becan, whose club went 9-7 last season. "We have so many new players. I usually skate 17 girls and I think I had another 10 working on the scorebooks tonight. Those are going to be the players that I'm going to look to in order to fill the lines in the future."

The Little Tigers' depth will come in handy in particular this winter as it has joined the newly-formed Mid-Atlantic Girls Prep Hockey League.

The league includes eight teams including such current PHS rivals as Princeton Day School, Morristown Beard, and Pingry and there will be a playoff at the end of the season to determine a league champion.

"The girls are so excited for it," said Becan, referring to the league. "They know that there is something to play for. A lot of the league games are against teams we already had rivalries with. Now, the league just makes them bigger."

No matter how PHS fares in the inaugural season of the league, the team has clearly made strides. "The program just continues to move forward," maintained Becan, whose club plays two games at league foe Shady Side on December 18 and 19.

"That's my goal as a coach, to keep it moving forward and finding different ways that we can become stronger and better. I couldn't be happier right now, I'm just hoping we can continue this for the rest of the year and into next year."

—Bill Alden

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CHEN MUSIC: Princeton High senior star Vicki Chen, center, fires a shot on her way to a two-goal, three-assist performance in PHS' 10-0 win over Stuart last Friday at Baker Rink. Chen's productivity has helped PHS get off to a 3-1-1 start. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

CREASE CONTROL: Princeton High goalie Stacey Weingarten patrols the crease in PHS 10-0 win over Stuart last Friday. Weingarten had three saves in the victory. PHS, which has joined the newly-formed Mid-Atlantic Girls Prep Hockey League, plays two games at league foe Shady Side on December 18 and 19. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

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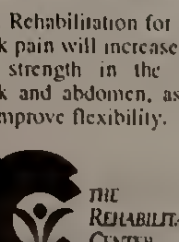

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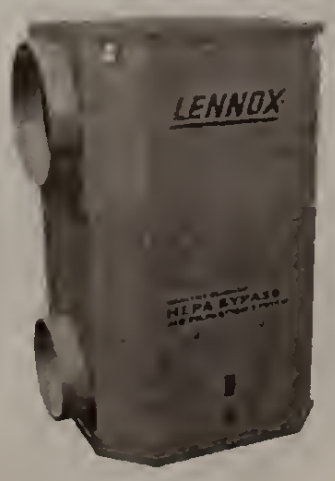

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PHS Boys' Hoops in Uphill Battle, Aims to Hustle Its Way to Success

The season hasn't even started for the Princeton High boys' basketball team and it is already fighting an uphill battle.

Coming off a 3-19 season, the team lost most of its frontcourt to graduation and has been slowed by injuries in the preseason as it tries to develop its rotation.

"We're trying to get healthy," acknowledged PHS head coach Dave Kosa, who noted that senior guard Marcus Brown is dealing with a thumb injury while junior guard Anthony Brown has been struggling to recover from an injured knee.

"We've had some nagging injuries that we need to get cleared up. We've been working hard. It's going to be a matter of developing consistency. We have seen some flashes."

Kosa is looking to the Browns and athletic junior center Ben Guervil to steady the team's ship.

"We have to rely on Ben, Marcus, and Anthony to bring the younger guys along," said Kosa, whose club tips off its season by hosting Lawrence on December 17 and then playing road games at Monroe on December 20 and at WW/P-S on December 21. "We will have some growing pains, that's natural."

In the backcourt, Kosa will be looking for the Browns to help lead juniors Matt Allunarco, Clinton Winder, and Will Rogers together with sophomore Alexz Henriques.

With his team having played two scrimmages so far in the preseason, Kosa has a better handle on what his guards need to do.

"We've learned that we have to do better at handling pressure," said Kosa, who is in his third year guiding the PHS program. "We have looked good in our half court offense. The younger guys need to adjust to the speed of the game at the varsity level."

In the paint, PHS will be going with several young players along with Guervil. Juniors Casey Huckel, Dan Mawn, and Matt Welsh together with sophomore Alex Kinsey should see minutes this winter in the front court for PHS.

Kosa believes that Huckel could give PHS a spark. "Casey has looked good," said Kosa. "He should be playing the four for us. He can knock down an outside shot which is a big help for us."

Another thing that should help the Little Tigers is the experience the players gained this summer from playing in both the Mercer County League and the Princeton Recreation Department League.

"The fact that we won the Mercer County league was good, that gives us something to build on," said Kosa. "Ben was the Rookie of the Year in the Princeton league. He was going up against some 6'8 guys and held his own."

In order for PHS to hold its own this season, it will focus on the things that it can control. "We want to build on our motto which is to be the hardest working team," declared Kosa. "We want to outhustle the other teams and play together. If we can do those things, good stuff will happen."

—Bill Alden

STRAIGHT SHOOTER: Princeton High junior guard Anthony Brown lofts a jumper last season on the way to averaging 11.0 points a game for the Little Tigers. Brown's productivity from the perimeter will be a crucial factor for PHS, which starts its 2004-05 season by hosting Lawrence on December 17. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

Emphasizing Defensive Intensity, PHS Girls' Hoops Aims to Improve

As Nikki Inzano enters her second season at the helm of the Princeton High girls' basketball program, she is confident that the team is well ahead of where it was last December.

"They understand my system, I don't need to explain drills," said Inzano, who guided the Little Tigers to a 3-20 mark last winter. "We have a good core of players. I feel that they are connecting well."

In addition to being more familiar with the coach, the Little Tigers know themselves better after competing this summer in a league in Bordentown

"Playing in the Bordentown league helped a lot," asserted Inzano, whose club opens its season by playing at Lawrence on December 17 and then hosts Monroe on December 20. "The girls hadn't ever done anything like that before. The kids really got used to each other. We played some tough teams but we hung in there with them."

Looking ahead to the upcoming season, Inzano believes defense will help her squad hang in games. "Our strength should be defense," said Inzano, a basketball star at Temple who has coached Division I college basketball. "I see an intensity in the girls. They will get steals and defensive rebounds."

Inzano will be depending on her backcourt to initiate the defensive pressure. Juniors Erin Cook and Stephanie Grubb together with athletic sophomore Kelly Curtis should see the bulk of the playing time at guard. Inzano will also be using seniors Tiffany Schuler and Sarah LaVoie together with sophomores Amanda Santamaria and Liana Dorman in the backcourt.

"We have really quick guards," maintained Inzano. "Kelly, Erin, and Stephanie are really standing out. Tiffany is also making strides."

In the frontcourt, Inzano will be relying on seniors Zoe Sarnak and Kamillah Parker together with juniors Brittany Holmes, Rebecca Shaffer, and Michelle Torquato. "Zoe is really solid," added Inzano. "Kamillah gives us intensity."

While Inzano is pleased with her players' grasp of her system, she notes that they have also shown an intense desire to learn and improve.

"They are always asking me what they can do," said Inzano. "Even after practice, they are hanging around the gym. Last year, they would be out in the hall waiting to go home."

Inzano believes that zeal will pay dividends as the season unfolds. "I'm looking forward to the season," asserted Inzano. "We are stepping ahead and making progress. I think we can stay with teams every night."

—Bill Alden

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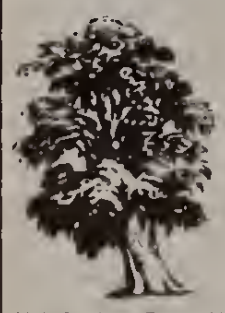

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Who was the greatest NFL quarterback of all time? Johnny Unitas? Joe Montana? Joe Elway? How about Otto Graham? If the true test of a quarterback is where his team finishes each year, Graham is unmatched. He led the Cleveland Browns to 10 straight title games from 1946 through 1955 — the first four in the old All-American Football Conference and the next six in the NFL — winning seven of them. Graham also made history as the first player to wear a face mask. On November 15, 1953, Graham was elbowed in the face by San Francisco linebacker Art Michalik. He returned to the game with plastic wrapped around his helmet to protect his injured mouth.

• • •

The 2004 college football season saw the setting of an amazing record — most pass attempts in a single game. Tom Lensch of tiny Dana College in Blair, Neb., threw an incredible 101 passes against Hastings College, completing 56 of them for 507 yards. Lensch threw three touchdowns but also three interceptions, and Dana lost 60-35. By the way, the NCAA Division I record for most attempts in a game is held by Purdue's Drew Brees, who put the ball up 82 times in a 1998 game against Wisconsin.

• • •

Just in case you need more evidence that sports are everywhere, get this: The voice of Vatican Radio has begun broadcasting a sports show featuring cardinals expounding on soccer teams in Italy. The show airs every Monday in Rome and is then rebroadcast nationally. It features a different prelate each week, with 88-year-old Cardinal Fiorenzo Angelini appearing as the first guest. The guests don't hide their feelings about which teams are their favorites, but nobody has yet revealed which team the Pope roots for.

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Undermanned PDS Boys' Hockey Relying on Denise for Leadership

Will Denise invited all of his teammates on the Princeton Day School boys' hockey team to hang out at his home before last Friday's clash with the Hun School.

Denise didn't need much more than a couple of couches and a few chairs to accommodate his guests as the Panthers only dressed 13 players for the game with visiting Hun.

The Panthers' shortage in numbers, however, didn't add up to a deficit on the scoreboard as the Panthers applied their annual beating to their crosstown rivals with a 5-0 win.

In Denise's view, being undermanned has helped PDS develop a special unity that has fuelled its 3-0 start.

"We were all hanging out at my house and just getting together," said the senior forward, who had a goal and an assist in the win over Hun. "There are only 13 of us; we're having a good time. When you're having fun, it's a lot easier to play together."

The Panthers certainly had fun in extending their winning streak against Hun to 12. "Hun is our crosstown rival so it's a real fun game," added Denise, the Panthers leading returning scorer who has three goals and two assists so far in his final PDS campaign. "Their fans are great but ours held their own. It gets your blood going and your adrenaline up because both teams are cheering."

PDS gave their fans something to cheer about early as freshman star Eric Czapka scored in the first period on a feed from Denise.

In the second period, Denise found the back of the net along with David Brownschildle and Javiv Mallipudl. Brownschildle added the final tally in the last period while starting goalie Jared Tepper had 15 saves before Oliver Burton replaced him and made two stops.

While PDS didn't beat Hun by as wide a margin as in some of its recent wins in the series, that didn't bother Denise.

"We didn't blow them out like we had in the past but we did what we needed to do," asserted Denise. "We have so few guys. We're trying to do the little things and do the best we can."

As the only returning senior star on PDS, Denise recognizes that he must play a major role in helping PDS get the most out of what it has.

"From my freshman year through my junior year, I have been trying to be a leader like the guys before me were," said Denise.

"It's hard because I'm pretty much the only one left unlike in past years when there have been a couple of players who have been here all four years. I guess being the one they rely on is empowering. You know it's your fault if something goes wrong. A lot of times it's what you do that helps move the team forward."

PDS head coach Chris Barcless thought his club showed some forward progress in the win over Hun. "Our skills guys played pretty well," said Barcless, whose club hosts LaSalle on December 15 before heading to New England to play in the Barber Tournament on December 17-18. "Will Denise had a great game. Eric Czapka had a great game. Our power play looked good."

Barcless likes the way Denise and Czapka are meshing on his first line. "They play well together, they are both similar players," said Barcless, referring to Denise and Czapka. "They connected twice in our win over Downingtown East. Eric had two goals in that game and Will had an empty netter."

While PDS hardly came up empty against Hun, Barcless acknowledged that his team had to battle to subdue its local rival.

"We play hard in these games but it wasn't like in the past where we dominate and control," asserted Barcless, whose program has won seven straight state Prep B titles. "They are two miles up the road. It's a pretty big rival for us, the players know each other. We don't want to lose to anyone regardless of who it is."

Although encouraged by his team's 3-0 start, Barcless knows his squad is far from the finished product. "We're getting there, we're still not where we need to be," said Barcless. "We're getting better each day. We're practicing hard everyday, we're watching films. The guys are working hard."

Ironically, PDS' lack of manpower may help get the team in sync a little quicker. "Our guys are getting individual attention," said Barcless with a chuckle. "It's not like we're looking after 20 guys. We've got to teach 10 guys the system and they have to do it well. We're not teaching 20 guys so hopefully that will speed up the process of learning it."

Denise, for his part, is determined to use his experience to help his teammates grasp Barcless' system. "I've been here for all four years so I know how Chris plays and what he wants," explained Denise.

"He needs someone telling the younger guys what to do. When I talk, that's great but there are other guys in the locker room who do that too. We're 3-0 right now and we can't ask for anything more than that."

And if the Panthers can keep up their winning ways, Denise could host quite a party at season's end.

—Bill Alden

WILL POWER: Princeton Day School senior captain Will Denise, right, shows his defensive prowess as he intercepts a pass in PDS' 5-0 win over visiting Hun last Friday. Denise had a goal and an assist in the win as PDS improved to 3-0. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

GOLD GLOVE: Princeton Day School junior goalie Jared Tepper prepares to make a glove save in the Panthers' 5-0 victory against crosstown rival Hun last Friday. Tepper made 15 saves in the win. PDS, now 3-0, hosts LaSalle on December 15 before heading to New England to play in the Barber Tournament on December 17-18. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

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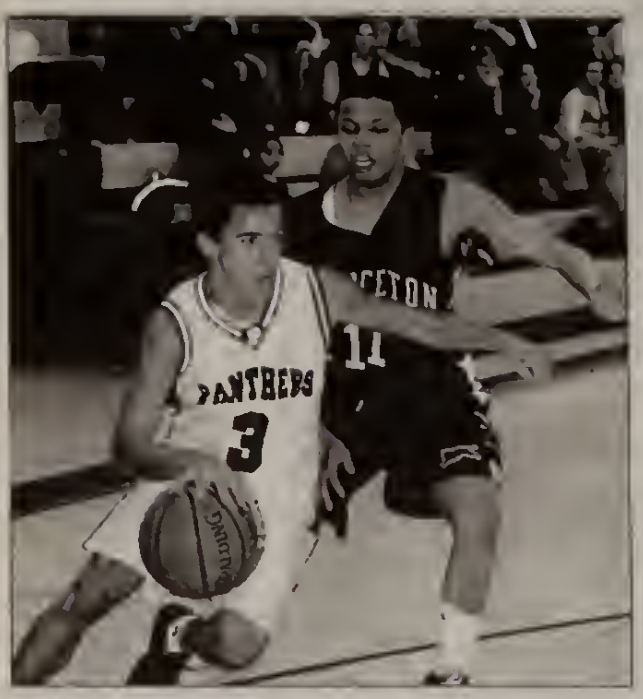

DOING THE HUSTLE: Princeton Day School guard Pierre Hoppenot, left, hustles by Princeton High's Anthony Brown in action last winter. Last Thursday, Hoppenot gave PDS a major spark off the bench as he scored six points to help the Panthers top Pennington 42-36 in the season opener for both teams. In upcoming action, PDS plays at Ranney School on December 16 before hosting Montgomery High on December 18.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

Drew Godwin knows that he has a lot on his plate this winter for the Princeton Day School boys' basketball team.

As the only returning starter for a program that made it to the state Prep B finals last season, the 6' 1 junior guard is expected to provide leadership, run the team's offense, score from the perimeter, and play tenacious defense.

Last Thursday, Godwin handled those duties and more as he helped the Panthers rally to a 42-36 win at the Pennington School in the season opener for both teams.

With PDS trailing 22-14 at halftime, Godwin helped the Panthers rachet up their defensive intensity in addition to scoring a team-high 17 points. Godwin displayed his coolness in the clutch as he drained live free throws in the last minute of the game to ice the win.

Afterward, Godwin acknowledged that he has a lot on his shoulders this winter. "I have to be a leader and really take that role to help the team win," said Godwin. "I think we are going to win. My shots weren't falling early on today so I was trying to take it to the basket to get some easy ones. I was also trying to help my teammates step up."

Last Thursday, Godwin's leadership included a heavy dose of defense and tenacity, particularly in the third quarter when PDS outscored Pennington 12-3 to change the course of the game.

"This was a low-scoring game and it really came down to defense and hustle," explained Godwin. "We picked up our defense in the second half and that was really big. It was hustle that won us that game."

PDS head coach Ahmed El-Nokali appreciates everything that Godwin brings to the table. "Drew's role on this team is that he's got to be able to do everything," said El-Nokali with a smile. "He's got to handle the ball, he's got to make the shots, he's got to cover their best guy and he's got to stay out of foul trouble too."

In assessing his team's spirited comeback against Pennington, El-Nokali said it came down to character as much as execution. "It wasn't about Xs and Os," said El Nokali, whose team battled powerful St. Andrew's and its Duke-bound center Eric Boateng hard last Saturday before succumbing 58-49.

"This a young team and it got some varsity experience today. You could tell from the looks in their eyes that they weren't ready at the beginning of the game. In the second half, they got more comfortable when they realized things were open and they could take them. We had to be tougher and we were in the second half."

PDS was tougher with the return of junior guard Andrew Davidson and freshman swing man Jordan Mickens. "Andrew hurt his back last year and he dedicated his off-season to getting stronger and working on his shot," explained El-Nokali of Davidson who snatched a big rebound and hit a key three-pointer in the waning moments of the win over Pennington.

"He has put on some weight. He's more versatile. We feel comfortable playing him inside to rebound and outside because he can shoot."

El-Nokali is comfortable with playing the talented Mickens in his starting line-up. "Jordan is probably one of the most fundamentally sound kids I've seen at the freshman level," said El-Nokali of the 6'1 swing man who had seven points in his debut and then followed that up with 15 in the loss to St. Andrews.

"He wasn't looking for his shot at all today in the first half. I think that as the season goes on, sooner rather than later, he's going to find that he has to be a key contributor to this team."

In El-Nokali's view, all of his players will need to contribute a little more intensity if the team is to succeed. "There was some toughness today but there has to be more," asserted the second-year head coach whose team plays at Ranney School on December 16 before hosting Montgomery on December 18.

"I don't think they understand it when I say that toughness is more than pushing a guy and moving him off the block. Toughness is not turning the ball over when a guy is pressing you."

Godwin, for his part, believes the Panthers made major progress over just the course of the season opener. "This was our first game and we were still feeling each other out," asserted Godwin, who poured in a team-high 20 points last Saturday in the loss to St. Andrews.

"It's a new team with a new core. In the first half, we were just getting used to each other. In the second half, we were helping each other out and playing off of each other which was great. We were much more in sync."

—Bill Alden

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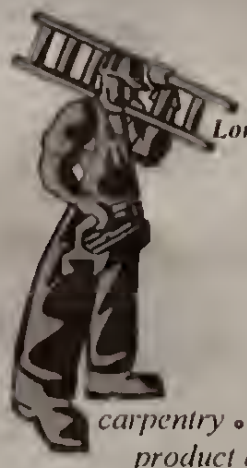

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Hard Work, Aggressiveness Pays Off As Stuart Hockey Makes Breakthrough

Absorbing a 10-goal loss to Princeton High in its season opener, the Stuart Country Day ice hockey team could've gotten discouraged.

Instead, the Tartans skated off the ice last Friday at Baker Rink with their heads held high, knowing that they had made plenty of progress despite the 10-0 final score.

Less than 24 hours later, the Tartans' positive attitude paid dividends as Stuart looked sharp in topping Lansdale Catholic 3-1.

In the view of Stuart head coach Greg Bugge, the seeds of Saturday's triumph were sown in the team's opening night loss.

"I thought we worked hard in the PHS game," said Bugge, whose team went winless last season and hadn't won a game since the Prep playoffs in February, 2003.

"Although the score was 10-0, we walked away with a lot of positives. We didn't walk off the ice dejected on Friday; we met a lot of the goals that we had set for ourselves. We played aggressively and we kept up the energy."

In the game against Lansdale, the Tartans used that energy to push their game to a higher level. "The kids were very excited to play Lansdale," said Bugge. "We had lost to them twice last season. We put things together on Saturday, that win was an all-around team effort. Each line worked hard and played aggressively."

Bugge got aggressiveness and productivity from senior forward Sarah Williams, who scored all three of the Tartans' goals in the win.

"Sarah's contributions were obviously big," said Bugge, who got good work up front from Taylor Blazewski, Julia Helms, Noha Ghusson, Christa Goeke, Megan Fitzpatrick, and Hilary Kinka.

"She got a goal in the first minute or two of the game and that gave us a big lift. She's a great player. She's got speed and she has a good shot."

Stuart also got a big lift from its defense, which is spearheaded by the quartet of Mary Jane Sweetland, Chris Morford, Liz Colicchio, and Becce Martin.

"Our defense was really thinking out there," asserted Bugge. "We just weren't getting the puck and dumping it. We were breaking the puck out of the defensive zone."

A pivotal factor in Stuart's defense is the continued improvement of senior goalie Natalie Verhaegen, who is proving that she can meet the high standard set by her All-Prep predecessor, Lindsay Grabowski, a 2003 Stuart grad.

"Natalie had a big pair of skates to fill and she has more than done the job," said Bugge, referring to Grabowski, who is currently starring between the pipes for Amherst College.

"She came to me in 8th grade. She had never skated and she told me that she wanted to be a goalie. She spent her first two years on the team in the shadow of Lindsay, only getting into J.V. games."

Verhaegen's skills are out in the open as she recorded 40 saves in the loss to PHS and then produced a 20-save effort in the victory over Lansdale.

"I think the big difference in Natalie between this year and last is her improved positioning in the net," explained Bugge.

"She plays the angles much better. She's not just dropping down on the puck. In the PHS game, she came out of the crease to stop several breakaways."

While Bugge lauds Verhaegen's individual brilliance, he knows that his team must maintain its one-for-all and all-for-one mindset in order to enjoy success this winter.

"There are no superstars on this team, starting with the coach," said Bugge, whose team will next be in action when it plays Morristown Beard on December 22 at the Lawrenceville School rink. "We're going to win as a team and lose as a team. I tell the girls that when you work hard as a team, you can get opportunities."

And last Saturday, that hard work paid off in a victory that was a long time coming.

—Bill Alden

CHECKPOINT: Stuart Country Day junior forward Christa Goeke, right, ties up a Princeton High player last Friday in the Tartans' 10-0 loss to PHS last Friday. A day later, Stuart beat Lansdale Catholic 3-1 to notch its first win since the 2002-03 season. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

BREAKING THROUGH: Stuart sophomore forward Julia Helms flies up the ice in the Tartans' 10-0 defeat to Princeton High. On Saturday, Stuart topped Lansdale Catholic 3-1 as Sarah Williams scored all three goals for the Tartans. It was the Tartans' first victory since they won a state Prep playoff game in February 2003. Stuart, now 1-1, will next be in action when it plays Morristown Beard on December 22 at the Lawrenceville School rink. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

PHS

Boys' Hockey: Led by a big game from John Ryan, PHS routed Nottingham 10-1 last Monday. Ryan had two goals and three assists as PHS improved to 2-1. Sam Finnell and Christian McCracken each contributed two goals and two assists while goalie Shane Leuck recorded 28 saves in earning the shutout. The Little Tigers play Lawrence on December 15 at Mercer County Park and Verona on December 17 at Baker Rink.

Swimming: PHS swimmers turned in several good performances last Saturday at the Knight Relays held at WW/P-N. In the boys' competition, the Little Tigers placed first in the 200-meter backstroke relay and the 200 butterfly relay. The girls' team also fared well as it won the 200 medley relay and the 200 fly relay. The Little Tigers have a meet against Notre Dame on December 16 at The College of New Jersey before hosting Lawrence on December 21.

HUN

Boys' Basketball: Paced by a productive outing from Leo Nolan, Hun topped the Boys Club of New York 54-46 last Sunday to win the prestigious Peddie School Invitational Tournament (PSIT). Nolan scored 20 points and was named the tourney MVP as the Raiders won their first PSIT crown in 13 years. Hun got 11 points from Geoff Rizk and nine points from Gary Garris in the title game as it improved to 5-0. The Raiders host Trinity Pawling School on December 16.

Boys' Ice Hockey: Overcoming a 1-0 deficit, Hun cruised to a 4-1 win over Pennington last Monday. The Raiders got goals from Joe Deane, Matt Torstrup, Justin Schleifer, and A.J. Blackburn as they improved to 2-1. In upcoming action, Hun hosts Pingry on December 15 before hosting the Hun Tournament on December 18-19.

Wrestling: Hun fell 48-28 to Rutgers Prep last Saturday to drop to 0-2 on the season. Individual winners for Hun included Pat Gallagher at 215 pounds, Solomon Mason (103 pounds), Edwin Garcia (130 pounds), Nick Thypin (135 pounds), and Pete D'Orio (140 pounds). The Raiders host George School on December 15 before competing in the Bayonne Tournament on December 18.

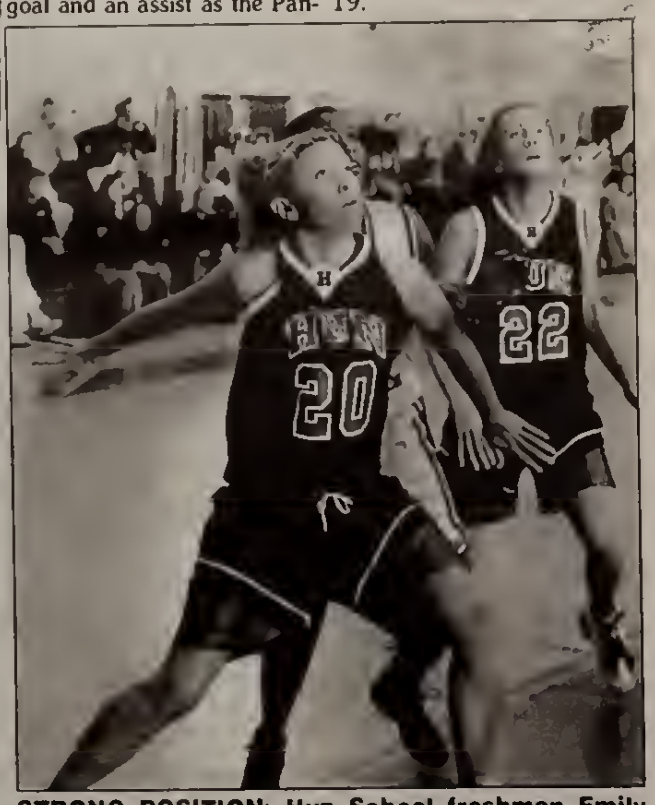
PDS

Girls' Basketball: Tied at 7-7 after the first quarter, PDS faltered the rest of the way in falling 39-17 to St. Andrew's last Saturday. Hannah Epstein had a team-high nine points as the Panthers dropped to 0-5. PDS plays at Academy of New Church on December 15 and at Morris Catholic on December 17.

Girls' Hockey: Jess Cellars and Meg Kerwin had productive games but it wasn't enough as PDS fell 5-3 to Morristown-Beard last Friday. Cellars and Kerwin each had a goal and an assist as the Panthers dropped to 3-2. Senior goaltender Kristina Costa also starred as she made 39 saves on a day when PDS was outshot 43-16. The Panthers play at Pingry on December 15 before competing at the Canterbury Tournament on December 17-18.

STUART

Basketball: Despite another fine performance by Kathryn Kitts, Stuart fell 46-29 to Rutgers Prep last Saturday. Kitts scored a game-high 17 points while Kelly Bruvik contributed eight as the Tartans dropped to 3-2 on the season. Stuart plays at Stone Ridge on December 18 and 19.



STRONG POSITION: Hun School freshman Emily Gratch, left, and teammate Mary Stinson establish position in the lane in Hun's recent win over Stuart. Led by 28 points from Shantee Darrian and a 12-point effort by Stinson, the Raiders topped Pennsbury 61-40 last Saturday. Hun, now 5-0, plays in the Rutgers Prep Tournament on December 17-18. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

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LAWRENCEVILLE

Boys' Basketball: Despite a big game from Jon Dixon, the Big Red fell 62-59 to Hun last Saturday in the semifinals of the Peddie School Invitational Tournament. Dixon poured in 21 points while Craig Moore scored 10 as Lawrenceville dropped to 2-1 on the season. The Big Red plays in the Boys Club Tournament on December 17-18.

Girls' Hockey: Paced by Rebecca Mantel, Lawrenceville topped Hill 5-1 last Saturday. Mantel scored three goals while Aubrey Fitzpatrick and Payson Sword added one apiece as the Big Red improved to 2-1. In upcoming action, Lawrenceville competes in the Taft School Tournament on December 15-17.

LOCAL SPORTS

PHS Athletic Hall Of Fame Accepting Nominations

The Princeton High Athletic Hall of Fame Committee is currently accepting nominations for the induction of its second class.

Nomination forms can be found at the following locations: Conte's, 339 Witherspoon St,; Hinkson's, 82 Nassau St.; Jimmy Macks Barber Shop, 141 John St.; McCaffrey's Market at the Princeton Shopping Center; Hoagie Haven, 242 Nassau St.; The Café at the Princeton Shopping Center.; and the Princeton High School athletic office and main office.

The form can also be obtained on line by logging onto http://phs.prs.k12.nj.us/Athletics/HallofFame/index.htm. The nomination forms must be returned by January 15, 2005.

Dillon Youth Basketball December 11 Results

In action last Saturday in the girls' senior division of the Dillon Youth Basketball League, Isabelle Clarke scored nine points and Kim Abrams added five as the Sting knocked off the Fever 30-13. Kate Wiles had seven points for the Fever. The Mystics topped the Sun 36-11 as Alex Passano scored 14 points. Jemma Greenbaum paced the Sun with five points.

In games in the girls' junior division, Claire Resnick scored four points to lead the Rockers past the Mercury 8-6 in overtime. The Sol beat the Comets 14-6 as Carolyn Ho netted six points and Callie Jahn chipped in four points.

In the boys' 8th/9th grade division Drew King scored 11 points as the Cougars topped the Tigers 27-20. Kenneth Orchard and Will Stattman scored eight points each for the Cougars while Ian Gabriel led the Tigers with nine points. The Raiders routed the Pirates 36-14 as Norberto Perez scored nine points and Travis Henderson added eight. Kurt Fechtmann had eight points in the loss. Joe Champlin poured in 15 points and Jelani Cherryrooks added 10 as the Vikings topped the Knights 36-24. Steven Barsamian had 11 points in the loss.

In games in the boys' 6th/7th grade division, Max Reid scored 15 points to lead McCaffrey's to a 31-30 win over Larini's Sunoco. Taariq Parker scored 12 points and Thatcher Foster added eight for Larini's. Tull's Terrors topped Momentum Fitness 26-24, as Mike Olentine led the way with eight points. Daniel Zack had 10 points in the loss. Eamon Fahey dropped in 13 points and Marcus Budline scored eight as GR Murray Insurance topped Sportsmedicine 28-22. Blue Point Grill edged Ershow Chiropractic 19-17, behind 12 points from Trevor Barsamian. The PBA Tigers defeated Princeton Amoco 45-19 behind 20 points from Will Kister.

In action in the boys' 4th/5th grade division, Tim Vasseur scored eight points to lead PBA Lions to a 20-19 win over Princeton Dental Group. Iano's Pizzeria edged Princeton Supply 34-31 in three overtimes as Davon Holliday-Black poured in 29 points. Beau Horan led Princeton Supply with 10 points. Matt Hoffman's seven points paced Mason, Griffin & Pierson to a 17-16 win over Woodwinds. Momentum Fitness topped PBA Bears 31-24, led by six points from Cameron Farmer. Matt Lesnik led all scorers with 18 for PBA Bears. The Café nipped Princeton Shopping Center 16-15 behind six points from Tyler Barton. Jeremy Goldsmith scored seven in the loss.

Group Offering Classes For Aspiring Lax Refs

The New Jersey Interscholastic Lacrosse Officials Association will be holding cadet classes for individuals interested in officiating high school boys' lacrosse.

Classes will be held throughout the state. Interested candidates must be at least 18 years old and playing experience is not required. For more information, contact Mike Tatch at (973) 366-1744 or mdtts@optonline.net.

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OBITUARIES

Rose A. Boccanfuso

Rose A. Boccanfuso, 73, of Princeton, died November 25 at the Princeton Care Center following a brief illness. She was a lifelong resident of Princeton.

She worked for more than 20 years in the housekeeping department at Nassau Inn. She was also an avid gardener.

Daughter of the late Carmine and Rose Boccanfuso, and sister of the late Frank, John and Anthony Petrone, she is survived by three daughters, Linda Shemeley, Louise Boccanfuso, and Rose-Ann Boccanfuso; a sister, Ida Rigg of Florida; and four grandchildren.

The funeral services were private. A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. on December 17 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 901 Canal Pointe Boulevard.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul's Church, 214 Nassau Street, Princeton 08540; or to Princeton Hospice, 208 Bunn Drive, Princeton 08540.

Arrangements were under the direction of The Kimble Funeral Home.

Marcia E. Wiedis

Marcia E. Wiedis, 76, of South Brunswick, died December 9 at home.

Born in New York City, she lived in Fairlawn and Maywood before moving to South Brunswick in 1965.

She received a bachelor of science degree from Hunter College, New York.

She retired in 1991 after more than 25 years as a registered dietician with the Medical Center at Princeton.

An excellent cook and voracious reader, she also enjoyed caring for people.

She was a longtime member of the American Dietetic Association.

She was predeceased by her parents, Sidney and Selma Schpetner; a sister, Jeanne Schpetner; and a son, Mark. She is survived by her husband, Robert; a daughter, Julie S. Wiedis of Princeton; a son, David, of West Chester, Pa.; and two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on December 12 at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Monmouth Junction. Interment was private.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kingston First Aid and Rescue Squad, 4280 Highway 27, Kingston 08528.

Arrangements were by the Crabiel Parkwest Funeral Chapel, New Brunswick.

Earl F. Cramer

Earl F. Cramer, 94, of Princeton, died December 12 at the University Medical Center at Princeton.

Born in Hopewell, he had lived in Princeton nearly his entire life.

He enjoyed visiting with friends on Nassau Street and playing the lottery.

The son of the late Frank and Mary (Whelan) Cramer, he was predeceased also by his brothers, George, James, and Thomas, and two sisters, Mildrid Landis and Doris Brabston. He is survived by many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 16 at St. Paul's Church. Interment will follow in St. Paul's Cemetery.

There are no calling hours.

Funeral arrangements are pending under the direction of The Kimble Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul's Church, 214 Nassau Street, Princeton 08542.

Richard H. Knight

Richard H. Knight, 80, of Los Angeles, Calif., died December 7, in Los Angeles, attended by his wife and five daughters.

Born in Gardner, Mass., he joined the Navy during World War II and was sent to Brown University to study electrical engineering. He graduated as the war ended and began a long career with New England Electric System. He designed power plants, substations, and microwave communications systems, eventually becoming chief electrical engineer for the company.

His passion was being out-

Continued on Next Page

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Director of Chapel Music

DR. JOAN LIPPINCOTT
Interim University Organist

Joan Lippincott, organist, and Peter Velikonja, oboist, will play "*Rhapsody*" and "*Andante Pastorale*," by Joseph Rheinberger, and "*Romance, Op.94 No. 1*," by Robert Schumann.

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Contact Molly Palmer 924-0060 to learn more.

Continued from Preceding Page

doors. He built rock gardens and playhouses for his daughters at their home in Natick, Mass., and began a second career as an avid mineral collector.

He is survived by his wife, Lucille; his daughters, Debbie Cerullt and Cathy Knight of Princeton, Barbara Dye of Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif., Pattie Chester of Carmel, Ind., and Connie Wilson of Solvang, Calif.; a sister, Marnie Fougere of Concord, N.H.; and 12 grandchildren.

Services were held at the Wayfarers Chapel on December 9.

Memorial donations may be made to the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, P.O. Box 3427, Rolling Hills Estates, Calif., 90274.

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Do you think the spiritual education of your children is important?

PRINCIPLES OF THE BAHA'I FAITH

- Oneness of Religion
- Oneness of Humankind
- Development of spiritual qualities such as truthfulness, fairness and kindness are essential to our growth.
- Community life is necessary to support families and individuals.
- The foundation of society is built on strong and caring families.
- Baha'is are followers of Baha'u'llah.

The Baha'is of Lawrenceville, Princeton and Hamilton Township conduct classes each Sunday for children and adults and these are open to people of all ages and faiths. If you are interested in fostering these ideals in your family and would like to attend, or would like more information about the Baha'i Faith, call Wendy Kvalheim at 609-683-8929 or go to the web at www.bahai.org.

Weekly Devotions open to all 9 to 9:30 AM.

Sunday Classes are 10:30 to Noon at the Lanning School, 1925 Pennington Road, just south of the entrance to College of New Jersey. Please join us.

FOSTER BAHA'I SCHOOL

Directory of Religious Services

Merry Christmas

PRINCETON ALLIANCE CHURCH

Live Nativity and Pageant of Peace
Tree Display
Dec. 17, 7:00-9:30pm
Dec. 18, 8:30-9:30pm
Dec. 19, 7:00-9:30pm
Chirstmas Musical
Dec. 18, 7:00pm
Dec. 19, 9:00am & 11:00am
Christmas Eve Services:
6:00pm (family service)
& 8:30pm
Sunday Worship Dec. 26:
9:30am & 11:00am

Rev. Robert R. Cushman, Senior Pastor
P.O. Box 9000, Plainsboro, NJ 08536
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SCUDDERS MILL & SCHALKS CROSSING

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Worship
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CHRISTMAS EVE:
12:10pm
3pm (live nativity for young children)
5pm (for kids of all ages with carols)
8pm & 11pm
CHRISTMAS DAY
10am Holy Communium with carols
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CHRIST CONGREGATION
50 Walnut Lane • Princeton
Jeffery Moys, Postor • 921-6253
Affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the American Baptist Churches, USA
Worship Service at 10 o.m.
Fellowship ol 11 o.m.
Educotion Hour ot 11:15 a.m.

NASSAU PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
61 Nassau Street • Princeton • 924-0103
(Ramp entrance on right side of building)
www.nassauchurch.org
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
Dec. 19: Fourth Sunday in Advent
9:15 & 11am
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve
12noon: Holy Communium
4:00pm: Chrismas pageant
7:00pm: Holy Communion
10:00pm: Lessons and Carols
Dec. 26: 1st Sunday After Christmas
10:00 Service (no educ. classes)
Jan. 2: Epiphany of the Lord
10:00 Service (no educ. classes)
David A. Davis, Pastor
Lauren J. McFeaters, Associate Pastor
Mary Reed Hazelrigg, Associate Pastor
Joyce MacKichan Walker, Director of Christian Education
Nancy Mikosky, Christian Education Consultant
Kenneth B. Kelley, Director of Music
Sue Ellen Page, Director of Choirs for Children and Youth
Maureen Franzen, Church Administrator
"One generation shall praise your works to another..." Psalm 145:4

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asceprin@aol.com www.allsaint.org Teaching the Grounds for Faith
SUNDAY Holy Eucharist at 8:00am & 10:00am*
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP in South Reception Room following 10 a.m. Sunday Worship
Sunday School & Adult Forum 11:30am-12:15pm
WEDNESDAY Holy Eucharist at 9:30am
*Nursery care available
16 All Saints' Road, Princeton • 609-921-2420
(North of Princeton Shopping Ctr, off Terhune/VanDyke Rd)
The Rev. Alan C. French, Interim Rector
Frances Fowler Slade, Music Director

Kingston Presbyterian Church
4565 Route 27, Kingston (609) 921-8895
Visitors Welcome *Child Care and Nursery*
Christmas Eve Services
7:00pm: Candlelight family Service
10:00pm: Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols
Pastor John Heinsohn *www.kingstonpresbyterian.org*
Korean Worship, 2:00 p.m. Sang Lee, Korean Pastor

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church
124 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ
Reverend M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for Adults
10:00 a.m. Sunday School for Children K-6th Grade
Nursery Provided • Ramp Entrance on Quarry Street
(A multi-ethnic congregation)
609-924-1666 • Fax 609-924-0365

St. Paul's Catholic Church
214 Nassau Street, Princeton *Msgr. Walter Nolan, Pastor*
Friday, December 24th
Children's Mass with Children's Choir, 4:00pm
Vigil mass with Youth Ministry, 6:00pm
Spanish Mass, 8:00pm
Adult Choir program, 11:30 & mass at Midnight
Saturday, December 25th
Masses at 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30am

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For information call 924-5674
For further information call 452-2824

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Youth Fellowship: 4th Sunday, 6 p.m.
Bible Study: Wednesday 12:15 & 7 p.m.
Office: 609-924-0877

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
First Church of Christ, Scientist
16 Bayard Lane, Princeton
Visitors Welcome
Child Care Available
Sunday Services
10:30 a.m.
Sunday School for Children and Young People up to age 20
10:30 a.m.
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7:30 p.m.
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924-0919
Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Thurs. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mother of God Orthodox Mission
at St. Joseph's Seminary, 85 Mapleton Rd. at College Rd. West, Princeton
609-252-0310 www.mogoca.org
Sunday, 10am: Divine Liturgy
Sunday, 9am: Church School (every other wk)
1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30pm Women's Group
Saturday, 5:00pm Adult Bible Study 6:00pm: Vespers

Westerly Road Church
37 Westerly Road
Princeton, NJ
924-3816
Non-Denominational Evangelical
Sunday Worship: 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 a.m.
Dr. Rev. Matthew Ristuccia, Sr. Pastor
Rev. David Rowe, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care
Mary McCormack, Director of Women's & Children's Ministries
Robert Olszewski, Youth Pastor
Carine Toussaint, Director of Missions
From Rt. 206 (Stockton St.) take Elm Rd. 8/10 mile.
Turn right onto Westerly Road - Church is on left.

The Jewish Center
435 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540
Telephone: 609-921-0100
www.thejewishcenter.org
Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins
Rabbi Jaymee Alpert
Cantor Murray E. Simon
Friday evening services at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday services at 9:45 a.m.
Religious School & Nursery Program • 921-7207

Trinity Episcopal Church
Crescent Ave., Rocky Hill, N.J. • 921-8971 (Office)
Rev. Janet Johnson, Vicar
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Services:
Holy Eurcharist at 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
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LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH
407 Nassau St. at Cedar Lane, Princeton • 924-3642
Pastor, Rev. Dr. John Mark Goerss
Dec. 24: Candlelight Communion, 8pm
Dec. 25: Choral Communion, 10:30am
Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
No Sunday School & Bible Class

Princeton United Methodist Church
Cnr. Nassau St & Vandeventer Ave
609-924-2613
Gregory B. Young, Senior Pastor
SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Worship 9:30am & 11:00am
(nursery care provided)
Church School:
9:30am & 11:00am
Adult Education:
9:30am & 11:00am
Teen Choir 5:00 pm
UMYF, 6:15 pm
All Are Welcome!

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Call 924-1600 **Marketed by: Mary Ann Higbam**

West Windsor **$569,999**
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Cranbury **$3,295,000**
Spectacular 10,000 sq.ft. all-brick stately colonial privately situated on over 10 acres. Deluxe master suite, au-pair suite, 4 car garage.
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Immaculate & spacious 2 bedroom townhouse with a loft.Formal living room with gas fireplace. Backs to golf course.
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HORSE COUNTRY — Just 5 mi. from NJ race tracks. This 14,500 sq.ft., 17-room home has been featured in numerous architecture & craft magazines. Completed in 1998 w/2 gourmet kitchens., an art gallery, spa & more on 6+ private acres. Makes a perfect corporate retreat.
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PRINCETON. Enjoy total tranquility inside and out in this spacious and dramatic four bedroom, 3½ bath contemporary home located on a private 2.17 acre lot just minutes from downtown Princeton.

PRT0331 — **Patricia Cooke & Diana Garrett** — **$1,325,000**

HOPEWELL TWP. This stone-fronted Colonial is a classic! Five bedrooms, 3½ baths including the sumptuous master suite with fireplace. Gourmet kitchen with adjoining butler's pantry. Set on 3½ acres of landscaped grounds and woods.

PRT1414 — **Susan Gordon** — **$1,279,500**

HOPEWELL. Enjoy hilltop views from this custom built Colonial with an amazing backyard, in Hopewell Ridge just a short drive from Princeton! Five spacious bedrooms, 4½ baths. Spectacular gourmet kitchen with conservatory breakfast room.

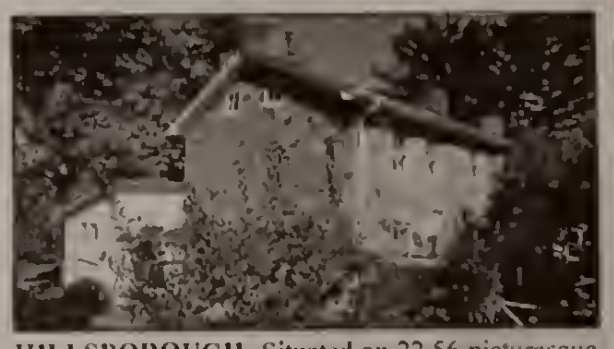
PRT0439 — **Susan Gordon** — **$1,199,900**

MONTGOMERY TWP. Spectacular home offers three levels of customized living. Circular floor plan and kitchen with granite counters and center island make entertaining easy. Landscaped acre lot with in-ground pool, play area, three car garage.

PRT0362 — **Heidi A. Hartmann** — **$1,195,000**

PRINCETON. Very special blend of European charm and contemporary design. Five bedrooms, 3½ baths. The dining room overlooks the gardens, and boasts a corner fireplace, presenting an atmosphere for intimate gatherings or a gala dinner.

PRT0334 — **Susan Gordon** — **$1,100,000**



HILLSBOROUGH. Situated on 22.56 picturesque acres of rolling meadows and woodland trails, with hand-built stone walls, this period Dutch stone farmhouse is an ideal country retreat.

PRT0420 — **Barbara Graham & Elizabeth McGuire** — **$985,000**

CREAM RIDGE. Dramatic interior spaces keynote this elegant home. Four bedrooms with 4½ baths. Huge finished basement with home theatre. Located in a beautiful country setting.

PRT0418 — **Barbara Graham and Elizabeth McGuire** — **$975,000**

BELLE MEAD. Handsome brick Colonial on wooded setting with 1.47 acre lot. Recently renovated kitchen. Four bedrooms, three full baths. Sun room, first floor office, full basement, plus a three-car garage with extra room for storage.

PRT0452 — **Stephanie Will** — **$935,000**

STOCKTON. Beautiful 17 acre equestrian property with six-stall barn with storage room and tack room, fenced pastures with run-in sheds, covered trailer parking, and more! The immaculate 4 bedroom Colonial has lovely views from all sides.

PRT0360 — **Diana Garrett** — **$819,000**

PRINCETON. This home was made for entertaining! Three levels of comfortable space include a gorgeous new kitchen, conservatory, finished walk-out basement, and patio with view of the lovely treed lot. Four bedrooms, 3½ baths.

PRT0409 — **Susan Gordon** — **$695,000**

PRINCETON TWP. The best choice in Princeton for a ranch style home close to town. Well maintained home with three bedrooms and 2½ all new baths. Gleaming hardwood floors and full finished basement. All on a beautiful .45 acre lot.

PRT0450 — **Susan Gordon** — **$689,900**

PRINCETON. Beautifully updated classic Colonial in fabulous location. Two bedrooms, 1½ baths. Open kitchen-dining room is perfect for entertaining with French doors leading to deck & delightful backyard. Garage, basement. Much more!

PRT0428 — **Sima Greenblat** — **$595,000**

Princeton Office 10 Nassau Street 609.921.1411

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FREE: Sofa Large, queen sleeper. Free Iwin futon Call (609) 452-1532 12-15

FOR SALE: Knabe baby grand piano, circa 1922 (609) 466-1349 12-15

2 BR APT SHARE: With female music teacher Spacious, large deck, washer/dryer, dishwasher, parking On quiet wooded property 2 miles to Nassau St. $620/month plus utilities Available January 1, 2005 Call (609) 924-5933 12-15

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PIANO (& BENCN): Upright Yamaha (M1B4339621), dark mahogany. Very good condition. Rarely played. Needs tuning $2500 Call (609) 924-7262 12-15

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LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP — 5 BR, 3 BA, 2 Half BA, H/W, Palladian Window, Sunken FR w/FP, Kit. w/Granite & Corian, Bsmt. Framed For Finishing.
Agent: Helone Fazio direct phone: 750-4121
PRJ#0529 **$1,350,000**

PLAINSBORO — 5 BR, 2.5 BA Col., Lib/5th BR, Skylts., Sunburst Windows, EIK w/Oak Cabs, 1st Fl. Laundry, 2 Tier Deck.
Agent: Joyce Belfiore direct phone: 750-4119
PRJ#0599 **$535,000**

EAST WINDSOR — Dramatic, Elegant. Architect Designed Contemporary w/5 BR, 3 BA, 2.2 Acres of Woods, Privacy. Walls Of Glass. Extraordinary Home.
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PRJ#0580 **$649,900**

PRINCETON JUNCTION — Country Club Lifestyle. Formal LR, DR, FR w/Wd. F/P, H/W Fl., W/O Bsmt w/Olc.,Rec. Rm.,BA.
Agent: Helene Fazio direct phone: 750-4121
PRJ#0676 **$785,000**

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Princeton - Architectural changes, additions enhanced this Ettle Fram Colonial elaborating the elegance of its design. Lovely garden.

Princeton - In the Edgerstoune neighborhood, with spacious family room, sun porch off living room. 2 patios, fenced yard. $965,000

Princeton - In an elegant Princeton enclave, this condominium has an ambiance of privacy. Professional chef's kitchen, 3 bedrooms.

Princeton - This strikingly handsome 4 bedroom Contemporary offers beautiful views. Custom kitchen, pool. $1,150,000

Hopewell Twp. - This custom cedar and stone home features a windowed Great Room and spacious kitchen. Scenic setting. $899,500

Princeton - This c1920 Colonial boasts period charm and is on one of the most secluded streets in the Institute neighborhood.

Plainsboro - A unit at Princeton Windrows offers handsome living spaces, community pleasures. **Newly Priced at $225,000**

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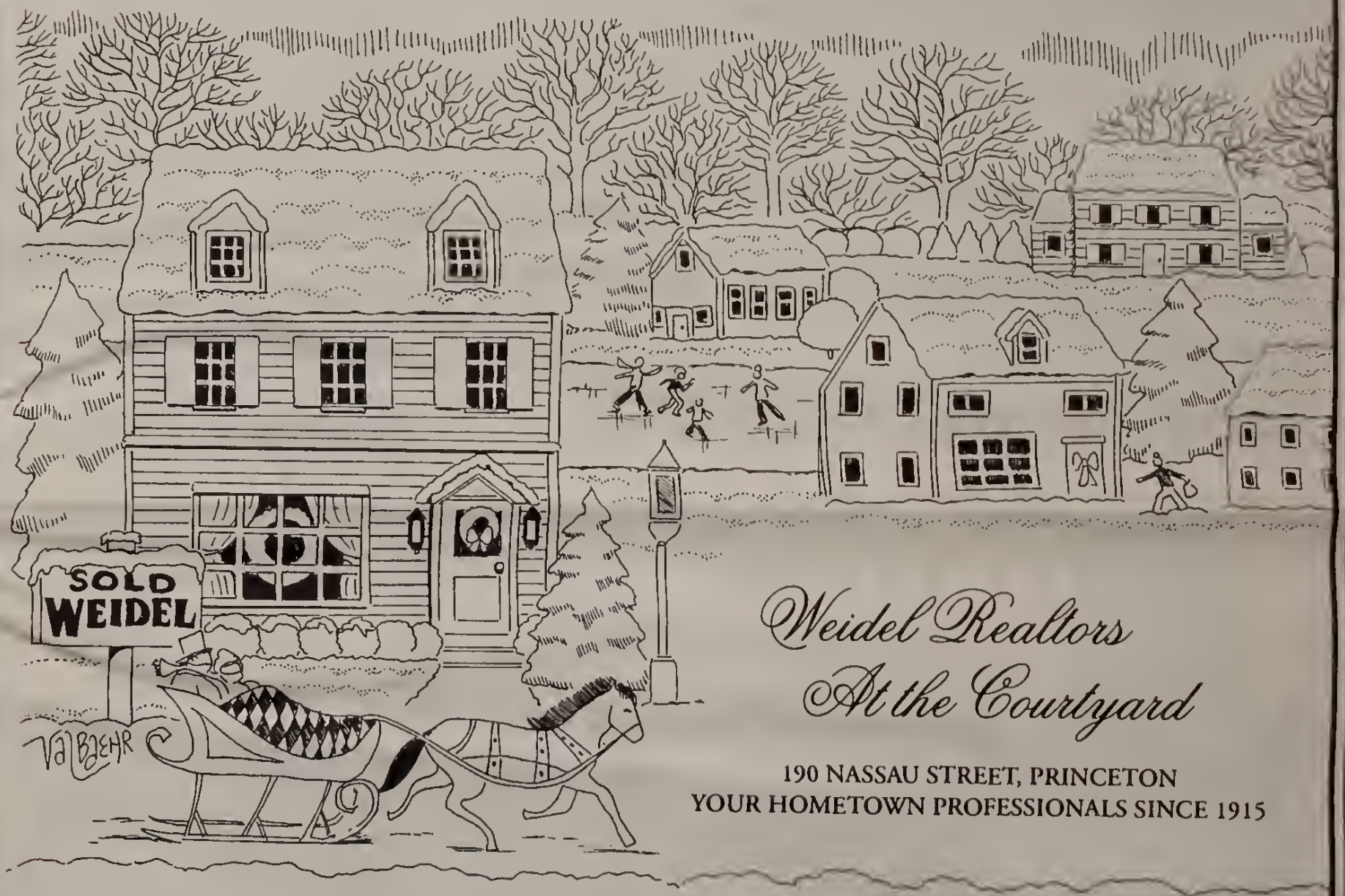

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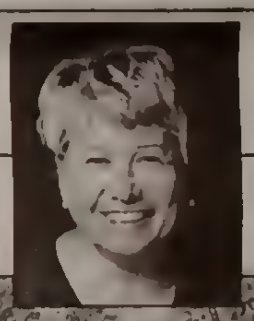

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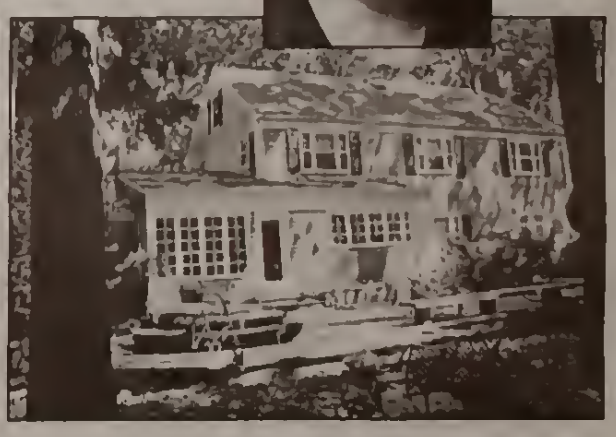

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PRT0458 **Marketed by Stephanie Will** **$875,000**

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As you enter the house, you will be taken with the volume ceilings and interesting architectural touches. French doors open to a discrete study, and the entry itself opens to the large living room and dining room. Again, French doors separate these public rooms from the other areas, if desired. Should you choose otherwise, the rooms are arranged to flow together, providing amazing spaces. The chef's kitchen has every amenity including terrific granite island and counters. This eat-in kitchen is open to the family room with fireplace. These rooms open to the deck and garden area. Master bedroom is on the main level, yet totally separate, with large closets and wonderful bath. Upstairs you will find extremely large bedrooms plus a loft type area. Whether you use this level for children, guests or even additional studies or library is up to you. Full basement for storage, of course. Superior value. **$675,000**

Just what you've been waiting for! Beautifully landscaped and with a large new deck, this Province Hill ranch has the light and drama found in a contemporary coupled with the warmth of a traditional home. The tiled entry opens to a spacious living room, each with vaulted ceiling. In the living room you will find window walls of glass, a fireplace and a wet bar. The adjacent dining room can easily accommodate your guests, who can enjoy chatting in the family room after dining. Elegant custom woodwork surrounds the second fireplace (actually, it's a double-sided fireplace open to both the living room and family room) which is echoed in the stunning wall unit, also found in the family room. The huge eat-in kitchen is inviting and updated, with sliding glass doors opening to the deck. All of the oak floors are special, many having contrasting wood designs and accents. Master bedroom is extremely generous, with tons of closets and, of course, private bath. Additional bedrooms are also large and well-placed. If for some reason you require additional space, use the beautiful spiral staircase to reach the lower level, with full bath and giant walk-out basement.

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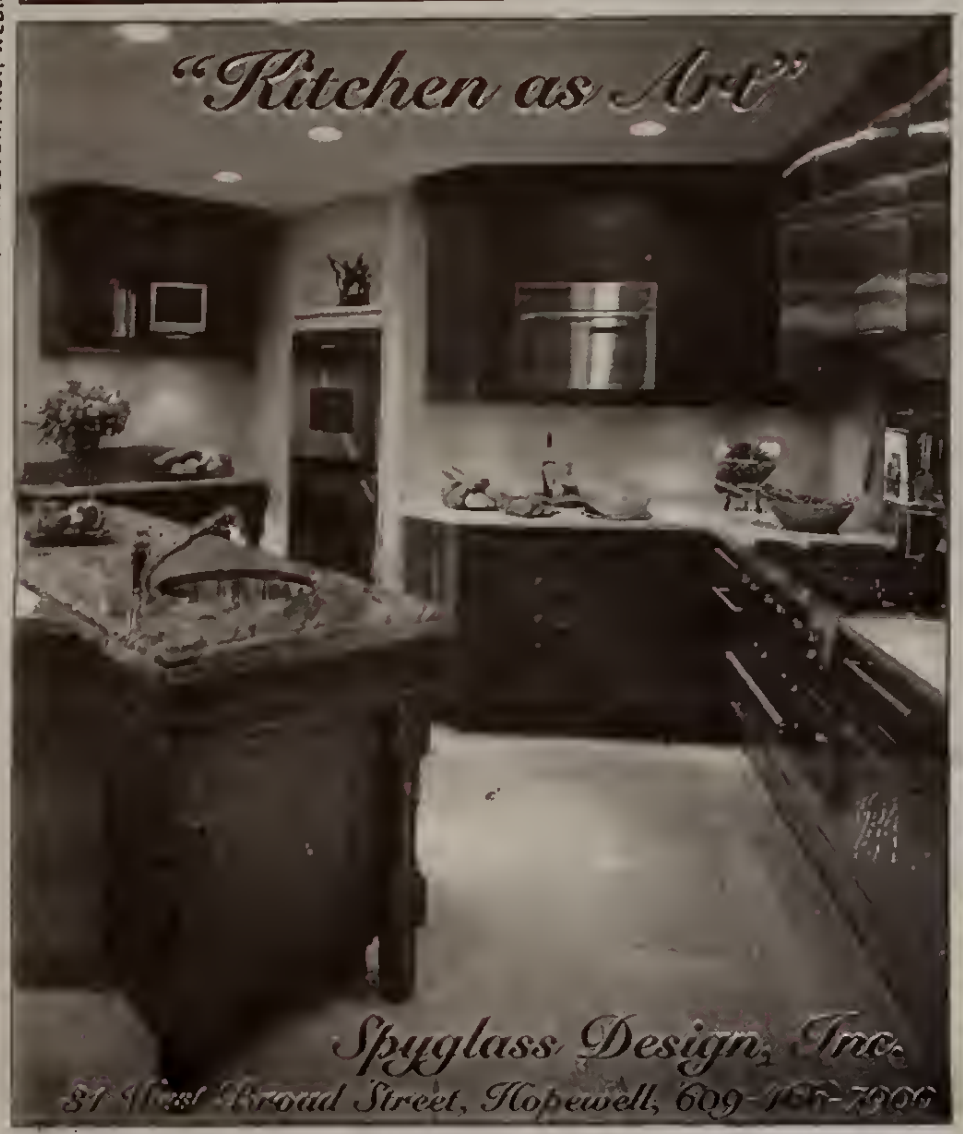

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By Tod Peyton

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POST OFFICE RETURNS TO THE SHOPPING CENTER: Ira Kaye, right, owner of Chestnut Tree Books in the Princeton Shopping Center, helps a customer with her parcel at the newly-opened postal unit on the lower level of the book store. It is the first time a postal unit has been present at the shopping center since the fall of 2003. *(photo by E.J. Greenblat)*

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from the Merchants of Palmer Square!

Palmer Square hosted their Annual Menorah Lighting last Thursday on the North Plaza.

Many thanks to Mayor Phyllis Marchand, Rabbi Dovid Dubov, Robin Wallack and Sheket, the Junior Choir of the Princeton Jewish Center.

PalmerSquare
MANAGEMENT L.L.C.

Remembering Others With Kindness Is the True Spirit of the Holidays

It truly is the gift that keeps on giving.

A little boy, seriously ill in the hospital, is entertained by a group of story tellers who make him laugh; a couple without funds receives a much-needed holiday food basket and gifts for their children; an elderly woman is cheered by an impromptu visit and gift of time from a young neighbor; a low-income single mother is able to get a Christmas tree when the price is suddenly reduced.

A prisoner receives encouragement and hope through the gift of a book and participation in a reading program; soldiers and sailors away from home are invited to holiday dinners at the homes of strangers; residents of a nursing home are entertained by children singing Christmas carols; a pharmacist walks two miles through a blustery snowstorm to deliver needed medicine to a customer on Christmas Eve....

It is the gift of kindness, of compassion, and of concern for others. It creates memories, and it creates hope; and in a time of increasing commercialization, it reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas.

It is also the gift that is returned to the giver time and time again. There is no bigger pleasure than helping others to have a happy holiday, especially when they might not have been able to do so otherwise.

Such help comes from organizations, institutions, associations, agencies, clubs, companies, churches and synagogues, and from individuals. It is often the unexpected, random acts of kindness that mean the most. A friend, formerly of New York City, recalls a most unusual doorman, whose caring set in motion an amazing story that has remained with her for more than 25 years.

Own Expense

"When we lived in New York, there was a wonderful doorman named Bill, who stood guard over our building. He knew everyone's name — including those of all the children — and was always very friendly.

"The building management did nothing about the December holidays, but Bill got permission from them — at his own expense — to put up two fir trees in the lobby. He decorated one with blue and white lights for Hanukkah, and the other with red and green lights for Christmas. One little girl asked him why there were no ornaments on the trees, and Bill told her that he ran out of money; maybe she and her brothers and sisters and friends would like to make some ornaments.

"So, the children in the building made blue and white construction paper chains on the Hanukkah tree and red and green ones for the Christmas tree. Then, one of the children said: 'How come there aren't any presents under the trees?' Bill told him that if (the little boy) and his family would like to wrap up some small presents, perhaps they could give the gifts to some children who weren't as fortunate as those in this high rise building.

"And so the presents piled up under both trees. By this time, no one really cared whether they were going to Christian children or Jewish children — just that the gifts would be put to good use.

Continued on Next Page

WINTER SCENE: This happy holiday scene is in the Christmas Shop at Baumley's Nursery, Landscaping & Garden Center on Route 27. The charming shop is filled with decorated Christmas trees, ornaments, decorations, and lights. Boxed Christmas cards, and gifts, such as a sleigh filled with fragrant fire-starter pine cones that burn in assorted colors, also a variety of snowmen, Santas, and reindeer (all of which can be inflated) are available. Baumley's is known for its wonderful custom wreaths, which are made on the premises. Wreaths of all kinds, such as boxwood and mixed greens (decorated with fresh winterberry holly) are cut fresh daily. All sizes are offered, as are swags, birch branches, and boxwood roping. Custom roping includes mixed incense cedar, boxwood, and red and green eucalyptus. Balled trees, such as Colorado blue spruce, Norway spruce, and potted dwarf Alberta spruce, are in stock, as are Fraser cut trees in all sizes. Fresh boxwood "Kissing Balls" are fashioned at Baumley's, and there are all-natural grave pieces. A beautiful display of red and white poinsettias adds to the vivid holiday scene.

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DECK THE HALLS: Dani Schall (left) and Suzanne Smith of Perna's Plant & Flower Shop on Washington Road, are shown with a beautifully decorated boxwood table tree and handsome hearth basket, Perna's specialties. Plain, decorated, and custom-decorated balsam, fraser fir, or mixed green wreaths are available, as is a selection of grave blankets and sprays. A gorgeous display of poinsettias in all colors, and other flowering plants, such as cyclamen, kalanchoe, amaryllis, paper whites, and orchids provide vivid holiday colors. Custom or already decorated centerpieces are also offered. In addition, small silk decorated Christmas trees are shown, a very suitable gift for one in the hospital or nursing home. Perna's has all the supplies for do-it-yourself decorators, and is also a florist, delivering locally. Its "sister" store, Mazur's Nursery & Flower Shop, offers similar products, and is located on Baker's Basin Road. It is especially known for its wreaths made from scratch, and garlands and roping by the yard or coil.

Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

So, on Christmas Eve, Bill and the children placed all the gifts in the parents' cars and took them to a nearby shelter. This tradition continued for years, until Bill retired. Now, the people in the building still carry on his good work.

"And one night — of course, it was Christmas Eve — suddenly the power went out. When it came back on a few moments later, the two trees each wore four-colored lights: blue, white, red and green! So, it has been called the "ecumenical miracle of East 80th Street!"

Tree Story

Another tree story involves a Hopewell resident, who remembers a holiday in the past when there was little money and not a lot to look forward to.

"I was a single mother with two children and really strapped for money. My father had given me $10 for a Christmas tree, and my kids and I went out to get one. It was the week before Christmas, and a really cold day, with freezing rain. Every place we went, the trees were $40 and up.

"Finally, after going to many nurseries — and by now, I was pretty bedraggled and discouraged — we came to another place. I said to the man, 'All I have is $10. Are there any trees here for $10?' The man looked at us, and then swept his arm up and pointed to the

Continued on Next Page

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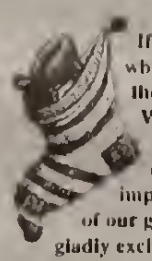

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Assorted snow tubes and sleds	$9.95-$24.99
"Hands Free" Yost ski carrier strap	$14.99
Dakine Cuff Visor Hat	$20.00
Disposable Hand/Toe warmers	$2.50
"Learn to Ski" Harness	$24.95
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Obermeyer youth fleece zip turtleneck	$45.00
North Face "Windstop" glove	$50.00
Burton "Board Sack" snowboard bag	$49.95
Men's and ladies' Hot Chilly thermal tops or bottoms	$47.00
Salomon snowblade bag	$34.00
Spyder "Varsity" zip turtleneck	$50.00
Certificate for snowboard service	$50.00
Assorted Ski/Snowboard DVDs	$25.00-30.00
Giro "Tune Ups" Helmet Speakers	$35.00
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Burton Skycap snowboard/ski helmet	$70.00
Turbine snowboard pants	$65.00
Ladies's Feta insulated pant	$85.00
Dry Guy portable boot and glove dryer	$79.95
North Face "Puntori" fleecevest	$79.00
Oakley A frame goggle with persimmon lense	$85.00
Expandable double ski bag	$69.00
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The North Face Vector Thermal jacket	$229.00
Dale of Norway "Berto" sweater	$249.00
Hotronic rechargeable boot heaters	$185.00
Uggs sheepskin apres ski boots	$130.00
Giro Nine superlite ski/snowboard helmet	$109.99
Atomic snowblades	$219.00
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Gravity 46" Skateboard	$159.00
Tecnica "Moon Boots"	$129.00
Miura "Furry Boots"	$179.00
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Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

trees, and said, "Do you see all of these trees? They are all $10!

"That act of kindness made a big difference in our Christmas."

A recent story concerns a friend from the west coast, who traveled east the beginning of December to visit friends in Princeton and New England. A "caretaker" throughout her life, she has given her time and talent to others on countless occasions over the years, but is not always comfortable on the receiving end.

As she explains, "This has been a challenging year for me physically. I had had both an ankle reconstruction and a total knee replacement on the same leg. I'm healing, but I've had to change my life-style a bit to accommodate same.

'Limo' Ride

"In planning my annual winter visit to New Jersey, I decided on a flight to Philadelphia. That seemed fine until I tried to find public transportation to get me to Princeton. There would be changes between shuttles and trains and cars, because no shuttle comes directly from the Philadelphia airport to Princeton. I knew that my leg would rebel, especially after sitting on a plane for several hours.

"A friend in Princeton offered to give me as a Christmas gift a 'limo' ride from the airport. When I found out how pricey that was, I left a message on her answering machine, thanking her for the thought, but saying that I really couldn't accept it.

"I had an errand to run, and when I came back, my answering machine light was blinking. My friend's message was that this airport transport was to be my Christmas present, and I was to accept it graciously. It gave me great thought. Time to let someone else have the joy of giving as they wished to give, and time to put my control issues aside.

"As I expected, my leg joints were stiff when I got off the plane, but as I came down the escalator near the baggage claim, here was a neatly dressed driver with my name on a sign. He was polite, retrieved my bags from the carousel, and showed me to the limousine, luxurious in leather, and roomy, warm, and comfy. What a lovely gift from a generous friend. Thanks, Ann, for ending my trip in comfort and luxury!"

The moral of all these stories might be: Never restrain a generous impulse — yours or someone else's!

In fact, there are so many ways to help others, whether through organizations, such as the American Red Cross or Salvation Army, or on your own. Across the country, people take advantage of many opportunities to contribute during this season and beyond.

One family decided to simplify their annual holiday extravaganza and combine it with an informal outreach program. After investigating, they ended up traveling across the country to Arizona, where they helped distribute food and supplies to needy families at the Navajo Nation there.

Best Things

A young teacher in special education reports that her

Continued on Next Page

CLASSIC DECOR: Trinna La Placa BenMoussa and Rachid BenMoussa of Nassau Interiors are shown near a turned walnut floor lamp with linen shade, a handpainted screen with floral design, and a large lidded porcelain jar. Known for its fine furniture and accessories, the store offers a variety of holiday gifts. Handsome umbrella stands, with handcrafted Coromandel finish feature tiger design; a natural mahogany wine rack accommodates 24 bottles and is nicely compact; a bronze clock with marble base and verdigris "turtle" feet is a great gift, as is a handsome wall clock, with a 31-day chime, specially priced at $79.95. Also a bargain is a selection of metal waste baskets in varied designs and colors, each for $29. A handsome mahogany keepsake box is a wonderful present, and other boxes are of porcelain and leather. A nice gift for a man is a set of leather coasters in an etched leather box. A set of three well-finished baskets features pewter handles, and a bronze letter opener with seahorse motif is another special remembrance.

Wishing you joy and happiness during this holiday season!

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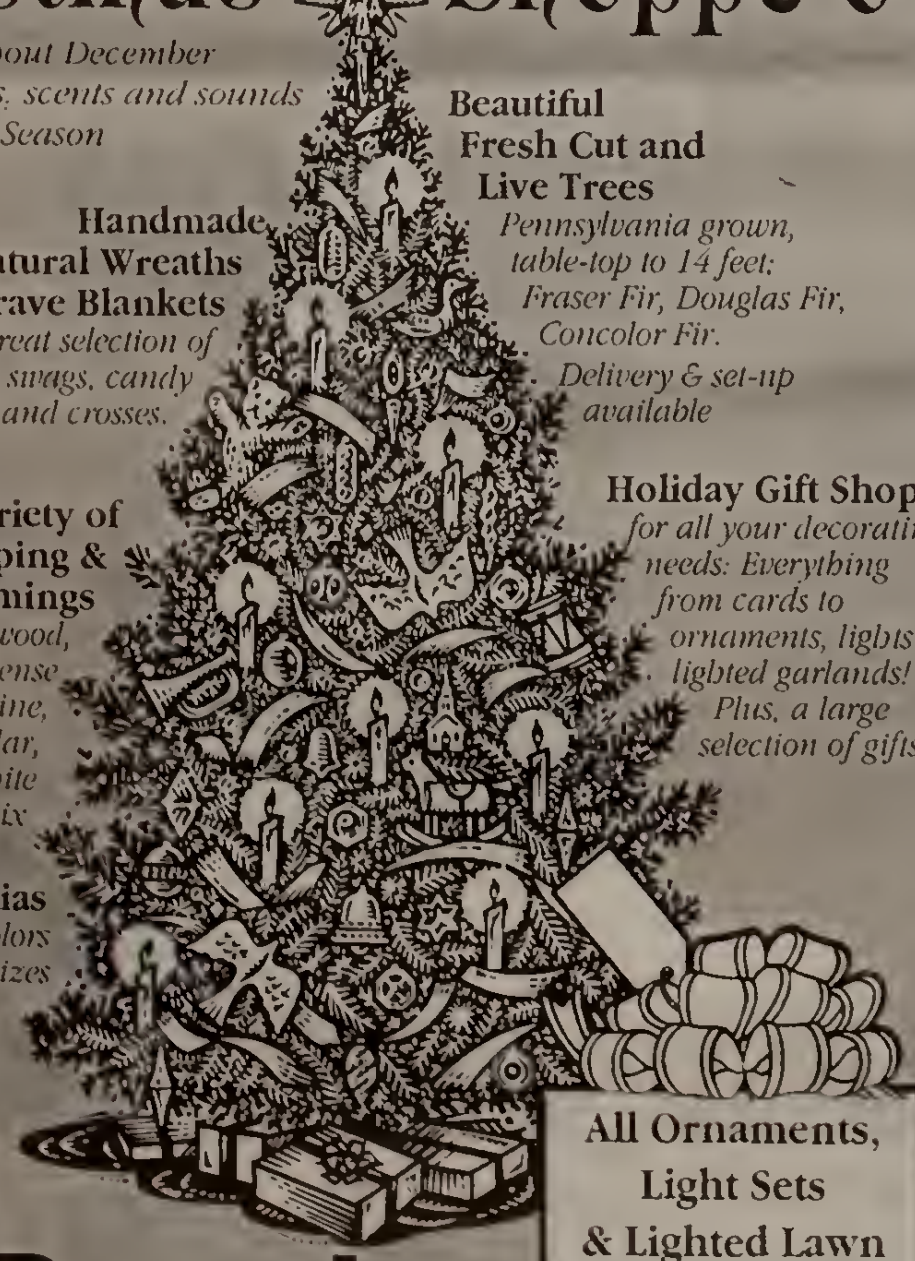

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Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

school has organized a program to sponsor a family for Christmas. Through support from various groups and volunteers, they are able to provide a family with Christmas dinner, a tree, presents, clothes, shoes, etc.

"This is one of the best things I have been involved in," she says. "Taking Christmas goodies to families living in pretty meager circumstances is a way to help someone else and try to make a difference in their lives.

"In another program, a company sends their employees to our school as mentors to meet with our students during their lunch breaks. It is one-on-one, and they eat lunch or play a game. It helps the kids because they know that someone cares for them and will listen to them, and it helps employees because they get to help kids. Some don't have children of their own, and they really enjoy hanging out with our students.

"I know it has made a big difference for one boy in my class who doesn't have a Dad, and really had no male role model," she continues. "Now, he is turning in his homework and talking about the fun things he does with his mentor. This program expands over the holidays, and they will go shopping with the kids, help them get a tree, decorate, etc. It is really a wonderful gift of their time."

In the Princeton area, there are many opportunities to help make someone's holiday happier. Crisis Ministry of Princeton and Trenton, HomeFront, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, the Princeton Senior Resource Center, and ABC Literacy are just some of those making a difference in people's lives.

Founded in 1980 by Nassau Presbyterian Church and Trinity Episcopal Church in Princeton, Crisis Ministry was incorporated in 1992 as part of the Princeton Outreach Projects, Inc.

"We provide food and financial assistance for people needing it," says Sally Osmer, Director of Crisis Ministry. "Mercer County is our overall area, but our focus is here and in Trenton. There is more need in Princeton than people are aware of. In the course of each month, we serve 1100 families, with 60 to 80 in Princeton. Our volunteers deliver food to low income people all over town."

Gift Bags

The need is compounded during the holidays, she notes, because of the emphasis on gift-giving, decorating, etc. "What happens during the holidays for everyone, whether wealthy or low income, is that there is always stress because of wanting to do more for your family. If you are struggling just to maintain your house, this is a real hardship and adds to the stress.

"We try to collect gift bags with personal care products, and people donate these. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts help, also congregations from the Christian and Jewish communities, and schools volunteer. The basement in the Nassau Presbyterian Church is our office and distribution center for Princeton.

The Human Services Department for Princeton Township and Princeton Borough is another organization providing help for those in need. Throughout the year, it offers information, referrals, and other assistance to Princeton families.

During the holidays, it conducts an annual toy drive for children — newborns to 12. Families submit information on their needs, and Human Services contacts donors. These are anonymous companies and individuals whose generosity provides everything

Continued on Next Page

THE MAYOR AND THE RABBI: Mayor Phyllis Marchand said the traditional prayers while lighting the candles in the Menorah held by Rabbi Dovid Dubov at last Thursday's rainy ceremony in front of Mediterra. *(Photo by George Vogel)*

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ECLECTIC SELECTION: Amy Hill, manager of Rouge on Witherspoon Street, is wearing a variety of items from the store. Denim jacket by James Jones, metallic knit top from Wendy Hil, and 18k gold earrings from Oseiyan. To the left is an assortment of baby apparel, and in the foreground, cashmere cable knit sweaters from Calypso. Rouge has evolved into a "one-stop" women's shop, focusing on active wear, lingerie, cosmetics, jewelry, as woll as a selection of baby clothes and men's skin care products and cashmore sweaters. Everything from the latest jeans, lingerie, and yoga apparel to Wolford stockings, up-to-date resort wear, and bathing suits is highlighted. Gorgeous cashmere sweaters and lounging pajamas are specialties, along with the wonderful "make-up magic". All you need to put your "best face" forward this holiday season is here. The popular Philosophy line of skin care products remains a favorite, and a great gift is the 3-in-1 shampoos, conditioner, and body wash in special egg nog and pumpkin pie flavors.

Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

from dolls to bikes, says director Cynthia Mendez. This year, 190 Princeton children will receive gifts.

The Princeton Senior Resource Center in the Suzanne Patterson building has a busy holiday season helping a variety of people of all ages.

On December 15, the annual holiday party will be held at the center, with 150 people expected to attend. Everyone is asked to bring a donation of canned goods, scarves, hats, or other clothing, which will be distributed through the Human Services Department and Crisis Ministry to people needing help.

"This is a wonderful event," says Susan Hoskins, director of the center. "Everyone helps, board members, staff, and my children come. It's an opportunity for them to be involved in giving to others. This is so important."

In addition, the center has obtained more than 100 teddy bears from the Salvation Army, and senior citizens in the area provide outfits for them. These "dressed" bears are then given to the children at the Princeton Nursery School by Santa."

Gift-Giving

In another annual December event, the center organizes free phone calls anywhere in the world for lower income seniors through the generosity of Merrill Lynch.

In addition, senior residents living in Spruce Circle housing are treated to a special holiday dinner from Acorn Glen

Continued on Next Page

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Holiday Shopping Guide

Gifts For The Women In Your Life

Luxurious cashmere sweaters and scarves, shearling coats and jackets. Fun jewelry and cruise wear separates for haliday vacations. Available at **Hedy Shepard**, 175 Nassau Street, 921-0582.

Diamond studs, diamond necklaces, engagement rings, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, pearls, and estate jewelry. Available at **Princeton Diamond Exchange**, 1225 State Road, 924-9400.

Vera Bradley handbags, duffel bags, garment bags, and accessaries. Available at **The Piccadilly**, 200 Nassau Street, 924-5196.

Glenda Gies handbags, hand made ribban belts, very special vintage jewelry, hats, and scarves. Available at **Euphorbia**, 6 Gordon Avenue, Lawrenceville, 896-4848.

Whimsical desk accessories, watering can pocketboak, stationery, velvet scarves and ponchos. Available at **Morven Museum Shop**, 55 Stackton Street, 924-8144.

Glittery ponchos and evening wraps, fur trimmed parkas and shearlings, art wear scarves, and beaded Christmas purses. Available at **Merrick's**, 6 Maare Street, 921-0338.

Fine jewelry, luxury timepieces, crystal, china, sterling silver, and collectables. Available at **Hamilton Jewelers**, 92 Nassau Street, 683-4200.

Pure cashmere Loden coats from Austria, pashmina shawls in over 50 colors, luxuriaus capes from England, and cashmere scarves fram Ireland. Available at **Landau**, 102 Nassau Street, 924-3494.

Unique handbags, shell pillows, hand blown glassware, cozy chic robes and pj's in fun colors. Available at **Matteo & Co.**, 301 North Harrisan Street, Princeton Shopping Center, 430-1400.

Limited edition Fitz & Foyd Nutcrackers, Waterford Crystal, Nominatian charm bracelets from Italy, Honara fresh water pearls bath fancy and tradltional, and large selectian af 18 and 14 karat gald jewelry. Available at **Princeton Jewelers**, 301 Narth Harrison Street, Princeton Shapping Center, 430-0900.

WINTER WOOLLIES: Andy Gensey, manager of Landau, is wearing a handsome tweed jacket, silk bow tie, and all cotton, no-iron dress shirt from the store's collection. The popular shop is known for its extensive selection of everything to keep you warm this winter and at very reasonable prices. Mohair, lambswool, or shetland throws are a great gift — no size, no sex! Scarves of every description — lambswool in 60 patterns, buttery soft cashmere, fun frilly boas with matching gloves and hats, faux fur, baby alpaca, and pashmina shawls in 60 colors — are big sellers. The selection of shearling mittens and gloves, earmuffs, slippers and boots, is outstanding. Cashmere and cashmere blend socks for men and women are offered at great prices, and heads will turn with hats of all kinds, from hand-knit wool to angora baseball caps. Harris tweed jackets, Yiyella shirts and cashmere sweaters are favorites in the men's department, as are fishermen knit sweaters in Merino wool and the ever-popular Loden coats for men and women.

Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

Assisted Living. Other gift-giving senior programs include poinsettias from Princeton University and special packages from the Princeton Italian-American Sportsman's Club.

"We are a diverse and integrated community in Princeton," notes Ms. Hoskins. "When they can, whatever their circumstances, everyone wants to be able to give — not only to receive."

With that in mind, this year, the employees at N.T. Callaway Realtors have joined together with HomeFront to help "make a house a home" for some of Mercer County's neediest families. They are collecting a variety of items, such as small appliances and furnishings, including throw rugs, toasters, cooking utensils, pots, pans, dishes, cleaning supplies, bathroom accessories, etc. These items, new and unwrapped, can be donated at the Callaway office at 4 Nassau Street.

HomeFront, headquartered in Lawrence, focuses on helping families reach and maintain independence. Its mission is "to end homelessness in Mercer County by harnessing the caring, resources, and know-how of the community, lessening the immediate pain of homelessness, and helping families to become self-sufficient."

HomeFront's programs give people skills and opportunities to ensure the availability of adequate affordable housing and to break the cycle of poverty.

"HomeFront is a facilitator," says Callaway Marketing Director Pam Parsons. "They

Continued on Next Page

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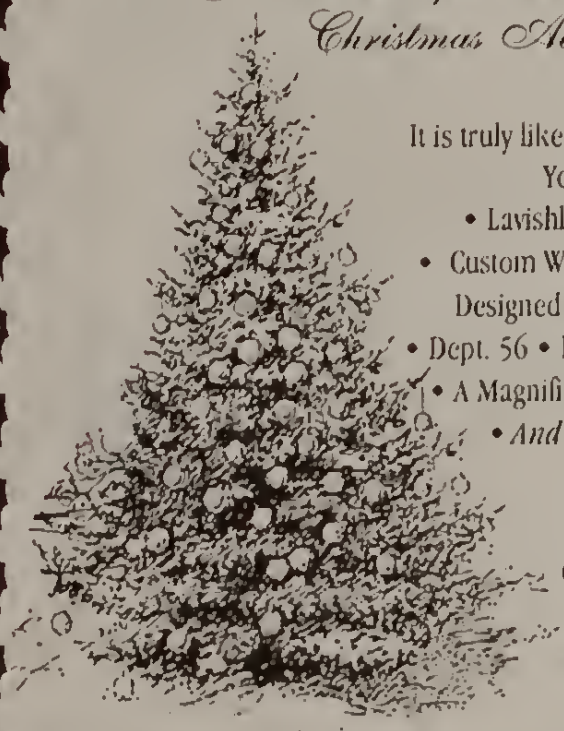

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Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

help people with job applications and in any number of ways get them to a point where they are self-sufficient.

"At Callaway, we were familiar with HomeFront, and this year, our agents decided to really get involved and form an alliance with them. Their concept makes sense with what we do. It's a perfect partnership, which we want to continue."

The holiday season is a time to remember everyone, and this includes people who are incarcerated. Princeton resident Lois Young is involved in ABC Literacy, a non-profit all-volunteer organization located in the Princeton area. It specializes in helping adults with learning disabilities, and has a particular emphasis on supporting and encouraging prison literacy programs.

"We advocate for more education and rehabilitation through reading," explains Ms. Young, who was co-founder of the New Grange School. "Through ABC Literacy, and the L.I.F.E. (Learning Is For Everyone) program at the New Jersey State Prison in Trenton, we help train inmates to teach others to read. ABC began consulting with the L.I.F.E. program in 1998 at the request of the men in that program.

"Volunteers tutor, teach classes in a variety of subjects, and we also have Scrabble and chess contests. There has been a great response from the inmates.

"I never expected to work in a prison," says Ms. Young. "But I have found that it is a link to your own humanity that you can't quite explain. You make a connection. The prisoners know they have made a big mistake and now regret it, and this is a chance for rehabilitation. This is a way to give them hope. They can't come out, but we can go in."

Financial gifts or gifts of books of all types, from art to history and at different reading levels, are welcome, she adds. This year, employees of several area companies, as well as students, instead of giving gifts to each other, are providing books for prisoners.

The ABC Prison Literacy Program is an outreach arm of The Nassau Presbyterian Church, staffed by volunteers from local churches and the community at large. For more Information, consult the website: www.abcliteracy.org

Far and Near

Reaching out to those far and near is certainly a holiday tradition, and this year, many people want to remember men and women in the military stationed far from home.

Sgt. Marion Cavanaugh of Princeton served for a year in Iraq with the U.S. Army Reserve, and she knows how much one misses home during the holidays. She says that messages, letters, and packages, including books, candy, snacks, and socks, are very welcome.

"Especially helpful are small toys that the soldiers can give to local children. These are greatly appreciated."

The American Red Cross of Central New Jersey coordinates gifts for the military and collects items for soldiers deployed from Fort Dix and also for those already stationed overseas. Toiletries, candy (not chocolate because

Continued on Next Page

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Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

it melts), batteries, CDs, and especially phone cards are very popular.

For information on how to contribute, call the Red Cross at 951-8550.

Remembering those in the military has a long history, and a friend in Nebraska, formerly of Princeton, recalls sailors at her family's dinner table when she was a child during World War II.

"During the war, our town in Nebraska had a Navy V-12 unit at Doane College, where advanced courses in flying and leadership prepared sailors to become pilots and officers. All of these were young men, and most were a long way from home.

"On Sunday morning, my mother would put together meat, potatoes, and veggies, sometimes all in one roaster, and while we were at church, our dinner cooked. It had to be ready when we got home because my parents had invited these young sailors, two at a time, to join us for Sunday dinner or on holidays. The cake or pie was made beforehand, and there was always plenty to share.

"It was fun for us children, too, as the sailors often brought candy. We had to be on our best behavior, and their crisp uniforms and good posture always made us sit up a little straighter. It was an experience I still remember today. They always seemed to have such a good time. They were friendly and cheerful, even though they didn't know what would happen in the future."

Inviting people to share a meal is one of the nicest ways to reach out to others. Another friend always looks out for those who may be alone on a holiday, and shares her table with them.

"At Christmas time, our family traditionally looked to find those about us who had no family or none close by. Even when it seemed evident that a person couldn't come, we extended the invitation. It was important and comforting to know there was a place set at the table, even if they couldn't make it.

"Since my husband was a minister and had a demanding holiday schedule, sometimes professional commitments made it impossible to plan for a personal Christmas celebration. One memorable holiday when we were living in New York City, we invited a friend who was a nurse to join us for Christmas dinner. She was on

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Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

duty through the night of Christmas Eve, taking on extra hours, covering for those who wanted to be with families away from the city.

"She arrived at our apartment for dinner in the late afternoon, and after a delicious meal, and in front of a blazing fire in the fireplace, fatigue took over! There was just our small family and our nurse friend, and each of us stretched out on the soft bayberry green carpet and fell fast asleep!

"The nap was more important than gifts or talk that Christmas. After a refreshing snooze, we proceeded to the figgy pudding, hot coffee, and presents!

Warm Fireside

Hearth and home, a warm fireside, trimmed tree, and friendly faces is the traditional Christmas that many remember from their childhood. Whatever one's age, it is still the happy holiday scene you wish to be part of again.

A Princeton neighbor, then living in Boston, was able to provide this friendly setting for a family far from home, who otherwise would have been in a hotel.

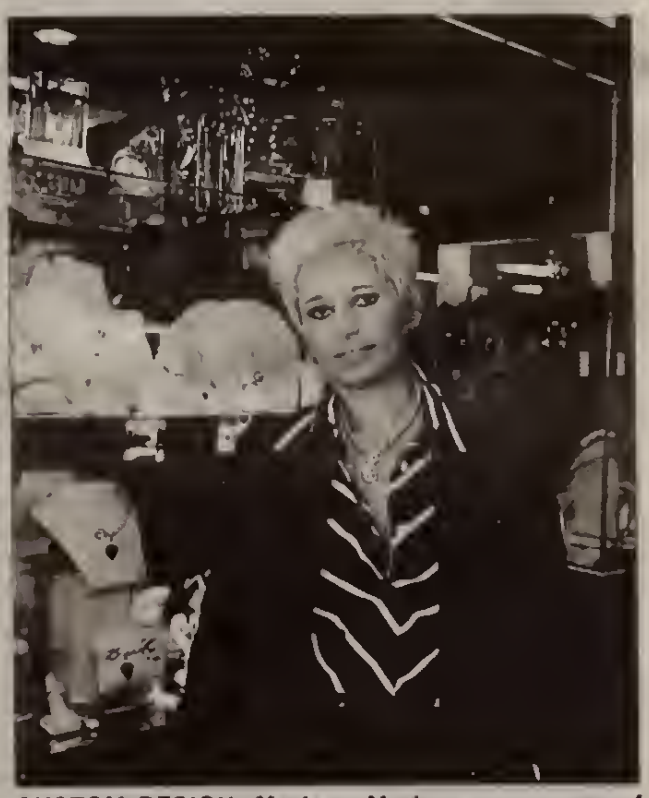
"I had to be at Massachusetts General Hospital for a couple of weeks in December, after which I planned to fly to North Carolina for a visit and R & R that would include Christmas and New Year's Day. While in the hospital, I became acquainted with the wife of a patient across the hall with whom I shared the same doctor.

"My problem was fixable; his was less so. In fact, the family's two youngsters were flying out from Oregon to join their parents for Christmas. What I didn't like about that was this family would have to spend Christmas in a hotel room when not at the hospital.

"I asked my doctor what he thought about my inviting this family to use my apartment while I was gone. I didn't want them to think I was intruding, and I needed another opinion.

Continued on Next Page

FASHION FORWARD: This holiday display at Hedy Shepard features three-piece ensembles, including a cashmere poncho over cashmere "racerback" tank sweater, and dressy winter pants. Available in pastels and black, the poncho is embellished by three clustered sparkling brooches. Also shown is a metallic handbag, featuring one of the new interchangeable handles. Hedy Shepard has a full selection of fashion for women, including the popular Johnston Cashmere line. Jewelry is a big holiday item at the store, which offers the unique earrings and pins of Alexis Bitar, earrings of Cousin Claudine, and the hand-done pearls of Coleman Douglas, including a marvelous pearl and felt pin. Custom silver cuff bracelets from Kirsten Moorehead are another specialty, as are the colorful shearling flower pins, so appropriate for coats.



CUSTOM DESIGN: Marlene Marlowe, co-owner of Marlowe's Jewelry & Repairs in the Princeton Shopping Center, wears one of the store's custom designs. An aquamarine with diamond enhancer on pearls with an 18k gold extender, it is a beautiful addition to a holiday outfit. Marlowe's is especially noted for its custom design of new pieces, redesign and restoration of vintage jewelry, and repair. A full selection of fine jewelry is available, including the very popular "hot diamonds" — diamond and silver necklaces, bracelets, earrings and rings. The sterling silver designs of Zina, including a spectacular "Fireworks" starburst brooch, as well as a variety of fashion brooches are all in demand. The Zopini stainless steel updated charm bracelet continues to be a favorite. Marlowe's private label Swiss watches are a great present, as is the gift set of watches with interchangeable colored straps. Also available are handsome designer pens by Jean Pierre Lepine.

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DOLLS ON DISPLAY: Cathy Pavelec, owner of Dreamin' Mimi in Kingston, holds her favorite Adora baby doll, who is wearing a "winter white" dress, booties, pantaloons, and hat. The especially popular Adora dolls feel remarkably real, and clothes for them are also available. The collectible Madame Alexander and Ginny dolls, as well as porcelain, vinyl, and play dolls are all part of the large collection. Bride, ballerina, American Indian and Oriental dolls in all sizes are on display. In addition, teddy bears and stuffed animals of every description are offered. Charming paper dolls have a literary theme, such as 'Little Women' and 'Alice in Wonderland.' The cozy shop also carries a selection of beautiful quilts, hand-done by an area resident. They are truly "works of art."

Spirit of the Holidays

Continued from Preceding Page

He thought it was fine for me to ask, and I did. They were delighted to accept.

"As my hospitalization was sudden, I knew that my apartment needed some extra attention. Three friends came, and between my intravenous antibiotic injections, took me to Queensberry Street, made beds, ran the vacuum, and put up a few decorations for Christmas. I packed my bag for North Carolina, and we dashed back to Mass. General.

Helping Hand

"The father was released after Christmas because nothing further could be done, so the family was gone when I returned. They had left me a wonderful letter, a cookbook, and a pair of gloves, warmth in my heart, and yet sadness for them, as I knew this could be their last Christmas together as a family unit."

Don't forget your neighbors, advises another friend. Sometimes those nearby can use a helping hand, too. Depending on their situations, they can welcome assistance with baby sitting, shopping (on-line shopping, too, these days), getting and trimming a tree, writing cards, shoveling snow, and just the gift of your time. All of these kindnesses can make the holiday a little brighter.

This friend likes to recall how her mother made cookies for everyone at the holidays.

"She just made zillions! And they were the best cookies! She gave them to everyone who came to the house the week before Christmas. We would all help and put them in boxes with a ribbon. They were given to the milkman, the postman, paper boy — whoever came. That was her gift to everyone. People still tell me about my mom's cookies."

Indeed, good will can be extended in so many ways. A friend from New Jersey remembers his father, a pharmacist, helping a customer one Christmas Eve.

"The man became very ill and needed medicine. We had had a blizzard, and there was no transportation to or from my father's pharmacy two miles from our home. My Jewish papa put on his warmest coat, heaviest shoes, and trudged through the snow and wind — it was below zero, too — and got to the store. He filled the prescription, delivered it to his patient, and walked back home. How's that for holiday spirit!"

That spirit can be contagious, and with just a little effort, it can be extended throughout the year. Giving is inspiring; we all receive so much in return when we give. And when your gift helps in a way that makes a difference in someone's life — that really is the gift that keeps on giving.

—Jean Stratton

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